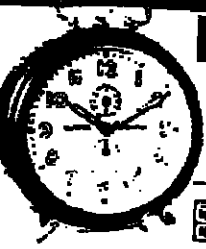


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24 PAGES 150 FILS

Time for serious dialogue: Baker

WASHINGTON, May 22. (Agencies) US Secretary of State James Baker said today it was "high time" for serious dialogue between Israel and Palestinians in the occupied lands and outlined for the first time specific steps each side should take to advance the Middle East peace process.

In occupied Jerusalem Army officials said today they had delivered a decisive blow to the military arm of the Muslim fundamentalists in the Gaza Strip, arresting 250 Palestinians and seizing a large weapons cache.

In an unusually tough speech to America's leading pro-Israel lobbying group, Baker met strong silence as he urged Israel to "lay aside... the unrealistic vision of a greater Israel... forewear annexation. Stop settlement activity. Allow schools to reopen. Reach out to Palestinians as neighbours who deserve political rights."

To Arab countries Baker said: "Take concrete steps toward accommodation with Israel — not in place of the peace process, but as a catalyst for it."

"End the economic boycott (of Israel). Stop the challenges to Israel's standing in international organisations. Repudiate the odious line that Zionism is racism."

He called on Palestinians to "speak with one voice for peace" and renounce the policy of plans for a phased destruction of Israel "in all languages, not just those addressed to the West."

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 1)

NEWSWATCH

Suspect freed

BONN, May 22. (Reuters) One of 14 Palestinians arrested in West Germany last October on suspicion of plotting bomb attacks was freed soon afterwards because he was an agent for Bonn's foreign intelligence service, Stern magazine said today.

The 14 alleged members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) were suspected of making bombs similar to that which blew up a Pan Am airliner over Scotland in December, killing 270 people.

But Marwan Khreizat, 44, a Jordanian national, was released in mid-November after police learned he was an agent of the BND, West Germany's foreign intelligence agency, Stern quoted two senior security officials as saying.

Nowhere to go

HELSINKI, May 22. (UPI) Striking Filipino crew members of a Baltic cruise ship were left holding their placards but with nowhere to go today when their luxury vessel stole away in the early hours, port authorities said here.

One hundred Filipino crew of the Black Prince, a Filipino-owned, Norwegian-chartered vessel, began a strike for a 10 per cent pay hike last Friday, refusing to allow the 4,000-ton ship to continue to Leningrad, Gdynia and Copenhagen, the authorities said.

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○ ہمارے دیہاتی علاقوں میں کیا
○ مقامی فرقے نے طاعون کا ماحول تیار کیا
○ آبل چھانچا ہول کے گریپ
○ من فریضہ تصادم ○ عرب سربراہ
○ راکٹ پھانسیا دیئے گئے

Syria sticks to its guns as Arab leaders gather

Warm welcome for Mubarak at summit

CASABLANCA, Morocco, May 22. (Agencies) Syria stuck to its radical guns today threatening to derail efforts to rally an emergency Arab summit around the PLO's Middle East peace strategy.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, meanwhile, arrived in Morocco to a rousing welcome before Egypt's first Arab League summit meeting in 15 years.

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah left Kuwait today for Morocco to attend the summit.

Sheikh Saad was accompanied

by an official delegation. King Hassan of Morocco called the summit, which formally opens tomorrow, principally to give unanimous Arab backing for PLO leader Yasser Arafat's peace drive.

But delegates at an Arab foreign ministers meeting preparing for the summit said Syria was sticking firmly to radical positions, rejecting any hint of possible recognition of Israel.

They added that the ministers were leaving the outstanding problems with Syria to be

resolved at the summit, the first since the PLO declared a Palestinian state last November and accepted co-existence with Israel.

Syria has not yet restored ties with Egypt, shunned by most of the Arab world after it signed a separate peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

But King Hassan warmly welcomed Mubarak on his arrival at Casablanca airport for Egypt's first summit of the 22-member league since one attended by the late Anwar Sadat in the Moroccan capital Rabat in 1974.

Rousing marches and folkloric songs greeted Mubarak, who was among the first Arab leaders to arrive.

Delegates at the foreign ministers' meeting said Egypt had tried to narrow differences between Syria and the PLO.

But Syria was insisting that the declaration of a Palestinian state under the terms agreed by the PLO's parliament-in-exile, the Palestine National Council (PNC), amounted to unacceptable recognition of Israel.

(Continued on Page 5)



HH the Crown Prince leaves for Casablanca.



Mubarak (left) reviews the royal honour guard with King Hassan (right) upon his arrival at Casablanca airport. (Reuters wirephoto)



A Chinese student wearing a mask to protect her from tear-gas sleeps on the steps of the Monument of People's Heroes. Demonstrators continue to control most of Beijing despite the imposition of martial law. (Reuters wirephoto)

Marcos return may be exploited Govt not too strong: Aquino

MANILA, May 22. (Agencies) President Corason Aquino said today her government was not strong enough to risk the return of Ferdinand Marcos.

On Friday, Aquino refused to allow the ailing, 71-year-old deposed president to return from Hawaiian exile and die in his homeland. She also refused to allow him to be buried in the Philippines, saying officials could not be sure his funeral would not lead to trouble.

Aquino met today with her cabinet crisis committee to review the Marcos issue. Afterward, officials said the ban on Marcos would continue.

But her national security adviser and a senator closely identified with the administration indicated the government might soften the ban on a Marcos burial if his followers could guarantee there would be no bid to undermine the government.

Aquino told reporters she feared Marcos' followers would try to exploit the death of the man who ruled this country for 20 years. She noted her own supporters used the murder five

years ago of her husband, former Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr., for political gain. He was slain in 1983 after returning from the United States to challenge Marcos.

Aquino said anti-Marcos groups wanted to parade the body of her husband through several provinces to muster opposition to the government. She opposed the plan but allowed her husband's body to be transferred briefly to his home province north of Manila.



Sister of former President Ferdinand Marcos, Fortuna Baras, leaves a private prayer service in Honolulu for the benefit of Marcos. (Reuters wirephoto)

While the exiled Marcos has lain ill, his wife has made repeated appeals to Aquino to allow him home to die.

Tomás Gomez, the Philippines consul in Honolulu, accused Imelda of trying to stir up a disinformation campaign.

Marcos was more alert and able to speak a little yesterday but remained "in very critical condition" with severe infections that followed lung, heart, and kidney failure, hospital officials said.

14 killed, hundreds homeless in Filipino fires

MANILA, May 22. (AP) Fourteen people were killed and hundreds of families were left homeless as separate fires swept crowded districts in the capital and a nearby city, officials said today.

In the central port city of Cebu, a pre-dawn fire also gutted two offices in the west wing of the provincial Capitol today, the government news agency reported.

Lieut Honorato Laurel, chief of the Manila police arson division, said seven children and a 70-year-old man were among 14 people killed in a fire shortly after midnight in the Santa Ana district.

He said the fire began in the stairs of an old two-storey wooden house where four families were renting rooms. Two of the families escaped by the back stairs, but the others were

trapped in their rooms, which had iron grills on the windows, Laurel said.

Ten houses were razed to the ground in the 45-minute fire.

In nearby Quezon City, some 200 houses were burned in a 90-minute fire last night in the neighbourhood of Frisco, the city mayor said. No casualties were reported.

Fierce power struggle rages

Chinese soldiers clash with crowd

BEIJING, May 22. (Agencies) China's leaders appeared locked in a fierce power struggle today as authorities in Beijing warned thousands of pro-democracy demonstrators that order must be restored as soon as possible.

Chinese soldiers clashed with crowds in a southwest suburb of the capital early today but apparently failed to break through blockades erected to keep them out of central Beijing.

Witnesses said soldiers hit people with sticks and belts, but did not open fire. They said some soldiers, who were armed with Chinese-made AK-47 semi-automatic rifles, pushed through throngs of residents trying to block their way, but that military vehicles did not advance.

One report said 15 residents were injured in the clash that occurred about 15 miles (24 kilometres) southwest of Tiananmen Square.

It was not clear whether it was an isolated incident or if the troops, located in the southwest suburb of Fengtai, were trying to advance on the square.

In a statement issued late today, the Beijing city government and the Army martial law headquarters called on "workers of all institutions, organisations, factories, schools, shops and other businesses to stay at their posts and continue work."

The statement warned that troops and police "must perform their duties."

It said the "marked influx" of people from other cities had made it harder to restore order and it was hoped they would leave Beijing immediately.

Earlier in the day tension had eased in the streets of the capital where hundreds of thousands of students and sympathisers had thrown up barricades over the weekend to block troops ordered in by hardline Premier Li Peng to disperse them.

Tens of thousands remained in Tiananmen Square, scene of 10 days of protest that have rocked China, but numbers fell during the day and the mood was relaxed. Many barricades were cleared and students sang, some wept, others put up makeshift tents for the night.

"The students have won, the people have won," a worker helping to remove the obstacles declared.

But have they? With the tightly controlled state media giving nothing away, Beijing's rumour mills ground away furiously, offering a range of explanations for what was going on behind the huge red gates of the Zhongnanhai Leadership Compound, to the west of the Forbidden City.

Diplomats said the struggle for power over China's one billion people had intensified, with Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang seeking to reassert his authority over Li Peng and end martial law in Beijing.

Zhao, a reformist 69-year-old, disappeared on Friday hours before Li announced that Beijing had fallen into anarchy and needed a military solution to the crisis.

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 8)

Air fare hike illegal: official KAC agreement

By Nirmala Janssen Arab Times staff

IN an effort to regularise air fares and improve income, the Kuwait Airways Corporation has reduced discounts on air travel to various destinations since January 1989 and has pushed prices higher to coincide with the rush season which begins June 1, 1989.

In a marketing agreement reached between KAC and various other airlines operating from Kuwait, discounts on fares to India, the Far East and Western Europe have been reduced by up to 20 per cent.

The air transport director of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation Dawood Boursli has, however, categorically stated that this agreement between KAC and other airlines has received no approval from the DGCA and is therefore illegal.

"No such proposal has been received by us to date and we know of no such move," said Boursli, who added that "without DGCA approval the

agreement is illegal."

All travel agents, whether recognised by IATA or not received circulars from KAC in January, April and again this month fixing fares on all sectors.

A similar marketing agreement was submitted in November 1987 by Kuwait Airways to the DGCA in the first instance asking for a 30 per cent increase in the minimum selling price from Kuwait, especially on the India sector.

In May 1988 Kuwait Airways, Air India and British Airways announced a hike in airfares to India that caused an uproar in the Indian community. The airlines were condemned then because had the move been successful passengers to India would have paid up to KD 50 extra over the discounted fare at a time when the market was hit by a recession and wages were frozen.

The DGCA at that time shot down the proposal by declaring that because the airlines had not reached a general consensus, the

(Continued on Page 7, Col. 1)

170 Britons will have to leave Soviet Union

Moscow clamps quotas

MOSCOW, May 22. (Reuters) Soviet authorities today announced cuts on the number of staff at the British embassy and other British institutions in the Soviet Union after a weekend of ill-fated expulsions over spying allegations.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said the number of employees at British institutions would be cut from 375 to 205 in line with Soviet staff levels in Britain. He suggested some Britons would have to leave the country.

But the British embassy said the measure was unclear, adding that only about 150 Britons were accredited in Moscow — diplomats, journalists and businessmen.

The official Tass news agency said later the quotas applied to "personnel of British institutions." This suggested that most

of the cuts would apply to locally-hired Soviet support staff — translators, drivers and other personnel.

Gerasimov announced the quotas after weekend disclosures that Britain was expelling 11 Soviet nationals and the Soviet Union had ordered out 11 Britons in retaliation. Three diplomats from each country formerly posted in the other were ordered not to return.

Gerasimov told a news conference Soviet authorities had proof that the Britons ordered out of the Soviet Union had been spying.

"The Soviet side has certified information that some British employees fulfilled orders of the secret services," he said. "Such British employees have to leave."

See Page 4 in chess game Page 4

AIDS law to allow tests at random

By Fathima Ahmed Arab Times staff

KUWAIT is in the final stages of preparing legislation on AIDS. A draft law on AIDS will soon be submitted for cabinet approval, according to Dr Rashid Al Owaish, the head of the public health department.

Health Ministry sources said the law might give sweeping powers to authorities to test at random anyone suspected of being at high risk.

Dr Al Owaish declined to comment on the contents of the proposed legislation.

He said the proposed AIDS legislation is part of control measures that are being implemented by the Ministry of Health to prevent the spread of the disease.

A 15-member national committee is putting the final touches to the law. It comprises a dentist, a lawyer and representatives from the Ministries of Education, Social Affairs and Labour and Health. Members of the committee include Dr Naeel Al Naquib, Undersecretary Ministry of Health, Dr Kazem Behbahani and Dr Abdul Aziz Al Anzi.

If approved, the law would enable the authorities to carry out AIDS tests on anyone who is identified as being at "high risk". Health Ministry sources said.

For example, people returning from holidays, or those who are suspected of being carriers would have to take AIDS test, sources explained. "Legal force can be applied to test all people for AIDS," they added.

Al Owaish said AIDS has been "identified as a different type of disease" and as such the authorities feel the need to cover it by the law.

"The social implications are far too many, and we need a law to enable us to protect everyone and take precautionary measures," he explained.

So far, 28 AIDS carriers have been detected among both Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis. In March this year, Kuwaiti authorities deported two expatriate AIDS carriers, identified during routine tests. One person was from an Arab country and the other, from an Asian nation, he said.

Non-Kuwaitis identified as carriers are deported under a policy introduced to discourage

(Continued on Page 7)

DAY BY DAY

IN his Opinion yesterday, our colleague Ahmed Al Jarallah said: "I want to live rich rather than die rich." By that he meant that he wants to live the richness without the fear of becoming poor. Regrettably, many people live in poverty during their lives in fear of becoming poor though they are actually rich. Miserliness is in itself a disease. If it spreads, the capital circle stops and people live in true poverty, although they are rich.

Zahed Matar

SNF row soon to be resolved

WASHINGTON, May 22. (Reuters): US President George Bush is optimistic about ending a NATO clash over short-range nuclear missiles before alliance leaders gather in Brussels next week to celebrate NATO's 40th anniversary.

Bush told a news conference in Boston yesterday "great progress has been made" toward settling the SNF row, which has pitted the United States and Britain against West Germany and several smaller North Atlantic Treaty Organisation countries.

"I think that we could well have this resolved before the summit," on May 29-30, Bush said.

His upbeat assessment was shared by French President Francois Mitterrand. Bush's weekend houseguest in Kennebunkport, Maine and fellow speaker at a Boston University graduation ceremony.

"The general interest of the alliance should prevail and it will," Mitterrand, who last Thursday staked out a position remarkably close to that of a US compromise, told reporters.

The American plan would postpone a decision on installing new battlefield nuclear missiles — a controversial topic in West Germany, where they would be stationed — until 1992.

In exchange, Bonn would line up with Washington and London in insisting there must be progress in reducing conventional forces in Europe before NATO accepts the Soviet Union's call for SNF negotiations.

Bush's optimism about restoring harmony to NATO was apparently shared by West German leaders.

A government spokesman said in Bonn yesterday that Washington's SNF offer was viewed as a basis for a deal. But he said Chancellor Helmut Kohl would still discuss some points in a letter and telephone call to Bush today.

The US proposals, which Kohl discussed with his foreign and defence ministers for two hours yesterday, form a basis for a compromise at the NATO summit, Bonn government spokesman Hans Klein said.

India successfully test-fires medium-range missile

NEW DELHI, May 22. (AP): India crossed the threshold of ballistic missile capability today by successfully test-firing its first medium-range surface-to-surface missile into the Bay of Bengal, news reports said.

The two-stage missile was fired at 7.17 am (0147 GMT) from the seaside launch site at Chandipur, 1,200 kilometres (745 miles) southeast of

New Delhi, United News of India said. Indian naval ships were posted in the Bay of Bengal to recover the second stage, the news agency said.

The 7.5-ton missile has a range capability of 2,500 kilometres (1,550 miles) which is sufficient to hit targets as far as Iran in the west, Hong Kong in the east, China in the north, and islands around the equator in the south, West-

ern military officials said.

It can also hit any target in neighbouring Pakistan, with whom India has fought three wars in the past 42 years.

It was the third attempt to launch the Agni missile, whose name means fire in Sanskrit language. The first firing, scheduled for April 20, was postponed by last-minute problems with the igni-

tion system. A second launch, set for May 1, was called off after an error in one of the rocket's sub-systems.

By successfully firing the missile, India joined the United States, the Soviet Union, China, France and Britain in ballistic missile capability.

UNI said 11,000 people living in 13 villages near the launch site were evacuated from their homes yesterday

evening as a security measure. The villagers have protested against the firing of the missile, fearing they will be shifted permanently if more launches are held at Chandipur.

Defence experts said Agni's payload capability of one ton is more than enough to carry a nuclear warhead in the future, although India says its previously demonstrated nuclear

capacity would be used only for peaceful purposes.

India exploded a nuclear device 15 years ago, and Western nuclear experts believe that scientists can assemble an atomic weapon in one week.

Agni is the fourth indigenous missile India has developed since the integrated guided missile development programme started in 1983.

53 Tamil rebels killed in attack

Rival militants clash

COLOMBO, May 22. (Agencies): Two rival Tamil rebel groups fought a bitter battle over the weekend in a northern jungle and at least 53 people were killed, military officials said today.

The officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, said members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the largest Tamil militia, attacked a camp of the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE) in the jungles of Mannar district, 225 kilometres (140 miles) north of Colombo.

The fighting lasted all Saturday night and at least 53 people were killed, they said, quoting intercepted radio communications.

The action at Kurunjukulam village, was the bloodiest clash in three years between the rival Tamil militants, who took up arms in 1983 to try and create a nation for the Hindu minority in the Tamil-dominated northeast.

A Defence Ministry official reported more than 100 fighters of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), surrounded the main base camp of the PLOTE, and at 1 am started firing automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades.

The adversaries fought an intense battle until 5 am, when the LTTE guerrillas withdrew, he said.

The official and an LTTE source based in Colombo reported the assault left dead 41 PLOTE guerrillas and 11 LTTE fighters.

A civilian official in the area, Dr C.N. Pararajasingham, reported 34 rebels were wounded, but he was unable to say how many were from which group. The action succeeded in promoting many PLOTE fighters to flee the area, he said.

A rebel source said the raid was to avenge the recent slayings of five LTTE members by

PLOTE's Mannar leader, named Sangili, who he reported died in yesterday's action.

The LTTE is the only Tamil militant group that has refused to endorse the July 29, 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan accord, which aimed at ending the six-year-old Tamil rebellion by granting the north-east some autonomy from the Sinhalese-controlled government.

It claims the accord fails to satisfy Tamil aspirations, and has been fighting Indian troops deployed to enforce the peace plan. A five-member LTTE team is currently engaged in peace talks with Colombo, but the discussions have not yet yielded any results.

PLOTE and three other militant groups — which had been fighting to establish the nation to be named 'Tamil Eelam' — accepted the accord, and have consequently received assistance from New Delhi.

So much for Fitzwater one-liner

BOSTON, May 22. (Reuters): French President Francois Mitterrand gave President George Bush's chief spokesman a mild scolding yesterday for likening Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to a "drug-store cowboy."

"I think one must be wary of caricatures. Mr Gorbachev is worth very much more than that," Mitterrand said when asked at a joint news conference with Bush about spokesman Marlin Fitzwater's wisecrack.

The White House spokesman applied the description "drugstore cowboy" — American slang for phony — to Gorbachev last week in expressing US wariness about the Kremlin chief's arms control proposals.

As Mitterrand's rebuke was translated from French to English, Bush jokingly commented: "So much for Marlin."

Fitzwater has also been taken to task by the Washington Post for his Gorbachev remark. In a scathing editorial last Thursday, the newspaper said: "It is not necessary to believe that the Soviets are making truly negotiable moves, let alone sacrificial ones on arms control... to believe that the Fitzwater one-line sneers are about as dumb a response to what the Soviets are doing as you could think of."

See Soviet may fire Page 4

Plenty of food: half a billion hungry

CAIRO, May 22. (AP): The world has 10 per cent more food than it needs, but human error, neglect and complacency have left at least half a billion people hungry, participants in a UN conference on hunger were told today.

A statement by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said only through human resolve can the man-made problem be solved.

Gerald Trant, executive director of the World Food Council, read Perez de Cuellar's statement at the opening of the council's 15th annual conference. The council is an agency of the United Nations that deals with political questions involving food supplies and hunger.

"Five years ago, the council noted that hunger... was largely a man-made phenomenon: human error or neglect created it, human complacency perpetuated it and human resolve could eradicate it," the statement said. "That is equally true today."

The council's current chairman, Eduardo Pesqueira of Mexico, was more specific.

"Peace is the basic prerequisite," the former Mexican agriculture minister said.

Pesqueira said comprehensive figures on world hunger are difficult to determine, and the conference heard widely divergent figures in its first session.

Youssef Wali, Egypt's deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture, cited statistics reflecting 512 million hungry people in the world and said the figure is increasing annually by 10 million people.

But Ide Oumarou, secretary general of the Organisation of African Unity, said in a statement read for him that 800 million people are either temporarily or permanently hungry. Coupled with a 10 per cent excess of available food in the world, he said, "it is a question of distribution and imbalances created by international trade, not of shortage."

According to World Food Council reports, most malnourished people live in Asia and Africa. It listed Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in Asia and Ethiopia, Nigeria, Zaire, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Mozambique in Africa.

Young children, pregnant and nursing women and the elderly are the most vulnerable to hunger, the council says.

It says malnutrition coupled with diarrhoea and infectious diseases kill an estimated 14 million children under age of five every year, and 83 per cent of the malnourished under-fives live in Asia and about 12 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa.

Boat sinks

30 drown
128 missing

JAKARTA, Indonesia, May 22. (AP): Thirty people died and 128 others were missing and feared dead after a passenger ship sank off the tourist island of Bali, an official said today.

"They are feared trapped in the boat," Wardjo, a search and rescue agency official, said. "Hopes are very slim that any of them are still alive."

The ship, Dharma Mulia, carrying 325 people, mostly illegal workers on their way from Lombok to Malaysia, sank yesterday after being hit by huge waves off the town of Benoa in southern Bali.

Rescue workers recovered four bodies and brought 167 passengers to safety last night.



Interfaith prayer

Mother Teresa of Calcutta puts her hands together to acknowledge the crowd of 47,000 that packed Dever's McNichols Arena to hear Mother Teresa speak during an interfaith prayer service. (Reuters wirephoto)

Indians fight back

Staying put

JOHANNESBURG, May 22. (Reuters): Five minutes' drive from Johannesburg city centre lies a wasteland — all that remains of a once-thriving Indian community.

But 76 Indian families refuse to leave the area of Pageview despite the devastation caused by government bulldozers clearing the area for occupation by whites.

The South African government decided in 1956 that all "non-whites" had to leave the racially-mixed neighbourhood.

They evicted black and coloured (mixed race) people. Then in the 1970s they began to shift the 1,200 Indian families to a stark new town called Lenasia in the empty veld, 35 km (21 miles) from their established shops, businesses and mosques.

"Here is a classic case of forced removal of a settled, viable community, clearly on the basis of race," said Cas Coovadia of Actstop, a group fighting residential apartheid.

"It gives the lie to the so-called reform policies of the state," he told Reuters.

Pageview's residents are in a stronger position than many impoverished blacks who have been forcibly uprooted during four decades of apartheid. They include articulate business people who know their rights and can afford to hire lawyers.

In 1982 the remaining Indian families won a legal judgement suspending forced evictions. They are now pursuing a court case in which they question the government's right to move people such a distance from their homes.

Meanwhile they live under grim conditions.

Their red-brick school and the local shops are shut, the roads churned into mud.

As each family gives up and leaves, demolition men and bulldozers wreck their homes to prevent others moving in, isolating the few occupied houses and the two mosques amid a field of rubble. Vagrants occupy the ruins.

On one side of the little area, new low-cost housing is gradually growing up and being offered on easy terms to working-class whites. About 200 families have moved in.

"Many (Indians) moved out under pressure. They saw their neighbours go. They thought they would not get any homes in the new places or they would be thrown out on the street," said Ebrahim Kharsany, a Pageview resident for 20 years.

Kharsany, the head of the South Africa's first Islamic bank, lives in very different surroundings to those of his white counterparts, most of whom occupy spreading villas set amid rolling lawns, with private swimming pools and tennis courts.

Kharsany inhabits a slum-like building where three of the four apartments were demolished after his neighbours moved out.

"My children asked why they were breaking up next door. What could I tell them," Kharsany said.

Early this year, Pageview's Indian residents saw a ray of hope after the government passed a law allowing a few areas to be settled by people of all races. Mayfair, across the road from Pageview, is tipped to be one of the first such areas.

Hundreds of TT kids meet at birthplace

BOURN, England, May 22. (AP): There were tall ones, short ones; chubby ones, skinny ones, noisy ones, quiet ones.

The 600 boys and girls looked perfectly ordinary, but had one extraordinary thing in common: all were test-tube children gathered in the sunshine Sunday with their balloons and ice creams for a reunion at the clinic where their lives began thanks to in vitro fertilisation.

The guests ranged from infants a few weeks old to Louise Brown, the world's first child conceived. They released 1,295 yellow balloons, one for every

test-tube baby conceived at Bourn Hall Clinic. They posed on the lawn for a group photograph, and Louise planted a walnut sapling in memory of the late Patrick Steptoe, the man who co-founded the clinic and pioneered the test-tube baby technique.

"I think the party's absolutely marvellous. I never thought when Louise was born that we would one day see so many children. It's lovely," said Louise's mother, Leslie, 41.

More than a decade has passed since Louise Brown's birth in England on July 25, 1978 heralded the dawn of what became known as in vitro fertilisation, or IVF.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Disarmament

STOCKHOLM, May 22. (Reuters): Leaders of a six-nation peace effort called today for the superpowers to speed up the disarmament process with complete bans on the testing and use of nuclear weapons.

An international agreement should be reached which bans all use of nuclear arms under all circumstances," Sweden, India, Argentina, Mexico, Greece and Tanzania said in a joint statement delivered to US President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

EEC polls

LONDON, May 22. (AP): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher launched today the Conservative Party's campaign for European Parliament elections with a pledge to cut red tape in the EEC.

Introducing her party's 64-page manifesto for the June 15 elections, Thatcher also reiterated her belief in the sovereignty of the 12 nations within the European Economic Community.

Political crisis

ROME, May 22. (Reuters): President Francesco Cossiga began efforts today to resolve Italy's latest political crisis but politicians said the search for a new government could take at least until late June.

Cossiga met former Presidents Sandro Pertini and Giovanni Leone at the start of three days of consultations aimed at helping him decide how to face the crisis caused by the collapse last week of Italy's 48th postwar government.

Plane wreckage

LIMA, May 22. (UPI): Two helicopters of a US drug force found the wreckage yesterday of a plane carrying nine narcotics agents, including six Americans, that disappeared in the Andes a day earlier, a US embassy spokesman said.

The spokesman said the twin engine Cessna operated by the national police was found in a rugged region along the western Andes near the town of Pucallpa in Chanchay province, 65 miles (105 km) north-east of Lima.

Rescheduled

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, May 22. (UPI): An Air Force Delta 2 rocket carrying a \$65 million military navigation satellite, grounded today over the weekend by bad weather, was rescheduled for a third launch try tomorrow.

A countdown yesterday, the rocket's second in two days, was cancelled by Air Force mission managers about 50 minutes before the planned 7:51 pm launch time when thunderstorms and high wind rumbled over the Cape Canaveral Air Force station.

Heroin smuggling

KATHMANDU, May 22. (UPI): A Spanish woman, two-months pregnant, has appeared in a special court denying charges that she was involved in smuggling heroin out of the kingdom, the court said today.

Anita Kincaid Lopez, 34, was arrested on May 13 with a 100-year-old Buddha statue at the Kathmandu international airport. Inside the statue there were stashed 50 grams of heroin, according to the police. Rincon was about to fly out of the country, the prosecutor said.

Amnesty appeal

PARIS, May 22. (AP): Amnesty International appealed today to the leaders of French-speaking nations, gathering this week for a summit in Dakar, Senegal, to clean up widespread human rights abuses in their countries.

In a 18-page report issued for the third Francophone summit, which opens on Wednesday, Amnesty listed what it called "very numerous cases of human rights violation in more than 30 Francophone countries."

Cholera epidemic

LISBON, May 22. (AP): Doctors in the Angolan province of Luanda are reporting over 100 new cases daily in a cholera epidemic that has already claimed dozens of lives, a newspaper said today.

According to the state-owned Portuguese daily Diario de Noticias, Angolan health officials have not released a definite death toll for the epidemic but foreign doctors in Luanda are reporting between 100 and 150 new cases every day.

Memorial day

BANGKOK, May 22. (AP): About 6,000 people gathered at a memorial in Cambodia's capital to observe an annual "Day of Hate" commemorating the mass killings of the former Khmer Rouge government, the Vietnam news agency reported.

The ceremony was held last Saturday at the 35-metre high statue in Phnom Penh's Cheung Ek district, where the Khmer Rouge executed 20,000 people, the report said.

Curfew lifted

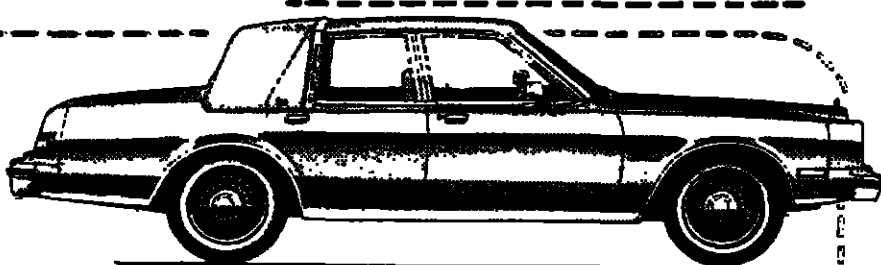
BELGRADE, May 22. (UPI): The government announced yesterday it will lift a dusk-to-dawn curfew in rebellious Kosovo province as of today, eight weeks after 24 people were killed in riots by ethnic Albanian extremists.

The Kosovo Interior Secretariat in the provincial capital of Pristina, some 190 miles (300 km) south of Belgrade, yesterday decided the 10.30 pm to 5 am curfew will be lifted but the ban on gatherings of three or more people for demonstrations and protest rallies will remain in force.

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CHRYSLER

PEOPLE AND PLACES

WASHINGTON: A former press secretary to Jesse Jackson contends in a new book that the 1988 presidential candidate was an abusive and sexist boss who was "incessantly critical and totally egocentric."

Elizabeth O. Colton, who served as Jackson's press secretary for about two months in early 1988, describes being shoved from behind by Jackson and says the candidate literally stepped on her toes to show his displeasure on several occasions.

"He abused me and most other staff members in countless ways," she writes.

Colton's account of Jackson's unsuccessful campaign for the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination is "The Jackson Phenomenon: The Man, the Power, the Message," being published June 26 by Doubleday.

Jackson declined to comment on her descriptions of him or incidents Colton recounts, saying he had not read the book.

But Jackson, in an interview, disputed the notion Colton was a campaign insider. He said she worked as his travelling press secretary for only five weeks and left about the time of the "Super Tuesday" round of southern primaries. (AP)

ENID, Oklahoma: Some residents have found out that being a fan of television actor Lee Majors is enough to prevent them from serving as jurors.

"I'm afraid I would be prejudiced because I'm a fan of Majors," Ernest Werner said Tuesday during jury selection for trial on a lawsuit the actor filed against an Enid oil and gas producer.

Werner was dismissed, but numerous other fans of Majors, star of "The Fall Guy," "The Six-Million Dollar Man" and "The Big Valley," lingered near the courtroom.

Majors and Enid businessman Ray Davis are seeking about \$3 million in damages from oil and gas producers Vantage and Laura Good, claiming money they invested was misused.

Lawyers for the Goods allege Majors and Davis sued because of anger over the drop in oil prices. (AP)

DENVER, Colorado: Governor Ray Rasmussen's state airplane was pressed into service as an air ambulance to transport an injured peregrine falcon to a bird clinic.

The governor's pilot, Lieutenant Lloyd White, was asked if he could carry the falcon from Lamar to Denver on Thursday, said Bryant Will, district manager of the Colorado division of wildlife.

"No problem," White told Will. "It will be nice to have real aviator fly with me."

The falcon, which had a cut on its right shoulder, was captured Wednesday by falconer Dale Edelman, Will said. The falcon could have suffered the injury by hitting a fence or tree while flying.

The peregrine falcon, which is long-lived, was too weak and too injured to be wary as Edelman walked up and captured it by hand, Will said.

The bird was taken to the Birds of Prey Rehabilitation Foundation in Broomfield. The governor's plane was needed when a flight by a local flying service was cancelled. (AP)

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts: It is not often that Superman and a Ghostbuster appear together and even more rare when they appear together at Harvard reading poetry.

Bill Murray and Christopher Reeve looked thoroughly at home Tuesday night when they performed at the literary benefit.

Murray's interpretation of William Shakespeare's "Ave O Lord" and Reeve's reading of Theodore Roethke's "I Knew A Woman" impressed an audience that knew them best as the man from "Ghostbusters" and as Superman. The man of steel.

The celebrities were in town for a tribute to Harvard humanist Professor William Alfred. Proceeds went toward the poets theatre, a small, non-profit theatre company established in 1950. (AP)

COBB, Wisconsin: Walter Jankowski probably will not be walking tall again for a while after trekking 180 miles (290 kms) across Wisconsin on stilts.



Soviet beauty

Seventeen-year-old schoolgirl Yulia Sukhanova was crowned Miss USSR on Sunday, defeating 34 other contestants in the country's first nation-wide beauty pageant.

Sukhanova, a 172-cm-tall (five foot-nine inch) blonde Moscow native, listed her interests as aerobics and ecology and aspires to working in advertising.

She was chosen by both the competition's jury and by television viewers.

Anna Gorbunova, from Zelenograd outside Moscow, and Yekaterina Meshcheryakova from the Ural city of Perm were named as runners-up in the competition.

Some 500 contestants from nearly all the country's regions took part in preliminary rounds. Last year the capital selected the first Miss Moscow.

Artist believed seriously ill

Daughter seeks control of assets

NEW YORK, May 22, (AP): Artist Willem de Kooning is believed to be suffering from Alzheimer's disease and his daughter is petitioning to be named co-conservator of assets worth up to \$150 million according to his lawyer and a magazine article.

Although court documents filed in state supreme court in Mineola, New York, state that the 85-year-old artist painter "continues to paint daily and masterfully ... his physical and mental condition prevents him from performing every day tasks and managing his finances."

According to the summer issue of Artnews magazine, De Kooning's daughter, Lisa, and his lawyer, John Eastman, have filed a joint petition to be named co-conservators of the artist's estate.

De Kooning, who lives in East Hampton, is one of the

most prominent living artists in the United States.

Eastman confirmed yesterday that the petition was filed in mid-February but refused further comment.

Artnews reported that the battle to represent the artist started two years ago when De Kooning's longtime dealer, Xavier Fourcade, died.

Since then, De Kooning has been without gallery representation and formal exhibitions and sales of his works were on hold as Lisa, whose mother is artist Joan Ward, and De Kooning's late wife, Elaine, considered offers from dealers.

Artnews reported that Lisa De Kooning, the sole beneficiary in her father's will, and Eastman filed the petition two weeks after Elaine, the artist's wife of 46 years, died in early February.

Jankowski, 27, started the walk in efforts to win a \$10,000 radio contest, but WKLB Radio marketing director Brad Wallace said Jankowski got too tired and too bruised from the 4-foot (1.2 metre) stilts to make it from prairie Du Chien to Milwaukee in three days.

Jankowski's entry was chosen from thousands telling what they would do for \$10,000. Others promised to do such things as windsurf across Lake Michigan, or herd sheep during traffic rush hours.

Jankowski left prairie Du Chien on Tuesday, but stopped after reaching Cobb. Jankowski, a structural engineer, said he has stilt-walked for six or seven years, but did not do any special training for his walkathon.

The station gave him \$1,000 for trying. (AP)

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Michigan: Friends of Terry Rakolta, a suburban mother whose complaints about a television show she felt was too raucy led some advertisers to withdraw sponsorship, say she has handled the attention well.

Rakolta, 44, established a group called Americans for Responsible Television after denouncing the show "Married... With Children" as hostile to family values.

She has since appeared on numerous news and talk shows to oppose sex and violence on television.

Friends say Rakolta's concern for her family gives her the strength to take on the networks. "There are certain things she cares very much about," said Suzy Farberman, a friend for 15 years. "She's like a mother lion."

Rakolta said her sister, Roma Ramsey, a Republican Party activist who is married to the son of former governor George Romney, helped prepare her for the spotlight. (AP)

ANCHORAGE, Alaska: The US National Transportation Safety board packed up and returned to Washington Sunday to study a week's worth of testimony about the wreck of the Exxon Valdez, but others involved in the probe showed no hesitation in blaming the third mate.

"The third mate ran it into the reef," said Bob Lenzewski, state representative at the board of inquiry.

"The third mate testified that he screwed up," said Coast Guard Cmdr Darrell Waldron.

Even Exxon's representative at the inquiry, Capt. William Depe, wondered aloud if the Coast Guard "could have shaken the third mate out of his doldrums and gotten him to change course sooner."

One man quite pleased at the end of the hearing was the lawyer for fired Exxon Capt. Joseph Henselwood, who was not on the bridge when the ship grounded and who refused to testify at the NTSB hearing because he faces state criminal charges of operating the vessel while intoxicated, reckless endangerment and negligent discharge of oil.

Henselwood's New York lawyer, Michael Chiles, said the hearing proved the wreck was not caused by a drunken skipper but by a combination of errors committed by the third mate and the helmsman. (AP)

PASADENA, California: The Magellan radar mapping probe launched from the shuttle Atlantis May 4 successfully completed a critical 5.6-second rocket firing late Sunday to nudge the craft onto the proper course for its 1990 encounter with cloud-shrouded Venus.

More than two million miles (3.2 million km) from earth and hurtling through space at some 60,000 mph (96,500 kph) relative to the sun, Magellan's eight rocket thrusters lashed to life at 7 pm (2300 GMT), increasing the spacecraft's velocity by a scant 6.6 mph (10.6 kph) as the "burn" was midloed to Magellan Saturday from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena where the mission is being controlled.

"Everything went real well," said Sam Dallas, a mission design manager at JPL. "We got a (normal) burn as far as we can tell." (UPI)

Marauding youths terrorise N.Y.

Teen gangs roam streets

NEW YORK, May 22, (AP): Eleven days after a Central Park jogger was raped and left for dead by a pack of marauding youths, David Bruskin stepped into the last car of a subway train because he didn't want his piccolo music to bother anyone.

It was a mistake.

Two other people were in the car when he got on around 5:30 am five stops later, at Times Square, they had an unwelcome company — more than a dozen youths, looking for trouble.

They found Bruskin. Like swarming bees, the teen-agers surrounded him, snatched his jacket, punched and bloodied his face, grabbed his wallet and broke his \$500 piccolo "into smithereens."

Then they marched through the train, chins jutting out, eyes darting left and right.

One witness handed Bruskin his wallet, discarded after the teen-agers stripped it of \$115. But the 39-year-old teacher felt lucky to escape with just a gash over one eye that required three stitches.

He knew about the 28-year-old woman who was jumped by a gang of youths April 19 as she trotted through Central Park on her evening run.

She was dragged into the woods, beaten with a brick and a pipe, raped repeatedly and left to die, her blood draining into a mud puddle. After more than a week in a coma, she regained consciousness, but a full recovery is

questionable.

Some authorities view these incidents as isolated extremes — the acts of a few city teen-agers who find strength and anonymity in numbers. Others say the "ultraviolence" perpetrated by youth gangs in the futuristic cult movie classic *A Clockwork Orange* has arrived in New York.

All agree something is very wrong — with these teen-agers, with the juvenile justice system, or both.

Usually, teen-agers join the loosely knit gangs spontaneously and have little more in common than age and a lust for excitement, police say.

They often strike just after school, wreak havoc for a few hours in binges of what some call "wilding" and then disband.

Tourists are frequent targets — the head of the police department's Midtown Robbery Squad once called them "walking statistics."

Tourists are often alone and vulnerable, wearing jewellery or carrying thick wallets. They are outnumbered by roving columns of teen-agers who have been known to parade through upscale stores, grabbing what they like.

Police recently beefed up patrols in the seedy Times Square area as part of an annual spring push to increase the number of officers there.

Last year, 622 robbery cases and 140 attempted robbery cases referred to family court involved two or more teens, and more than

100 cases of robberies, assaults and larcenies involved groups of five or more, said Peter Reinharz, chief prosecutor for the city law department's family court division.

"In light of the escalation and severity of the incidents, it appears that we're doing something wrong," Reinharz said.

Rita Kramer, author of *At a Tender Age: Violent Youth and Juvenile Justice*, noted that ineffectiveness of a juvenile justice system that was set up to handle wayward youths rather than young, hardening criminals.

She said many youths report having committed about 10 serious crimes for every one for which they are arrested.

"We're not doing a very good job of deterring or rehabilitating kids," said James Payne, a former probation commissioner now in private legal practice. "They're not deterred and they're not cured."

Reinharz said the system is too soft on children guilty of grisly crimes.

"The 12-year-old who commits a homicide is going to get the same disposition as a 12-year-old who stole credit cards," he said.

Bruskin recalled his attackers were "so matter of fact about it. It was obvious they were used to what they were doing. They looked at my possessions as things they were entitled to."

One witness, Chris Russel, 28, recalled the horror of what he had seen.

"There were so many of them," he said. "They just came and started beating on him."

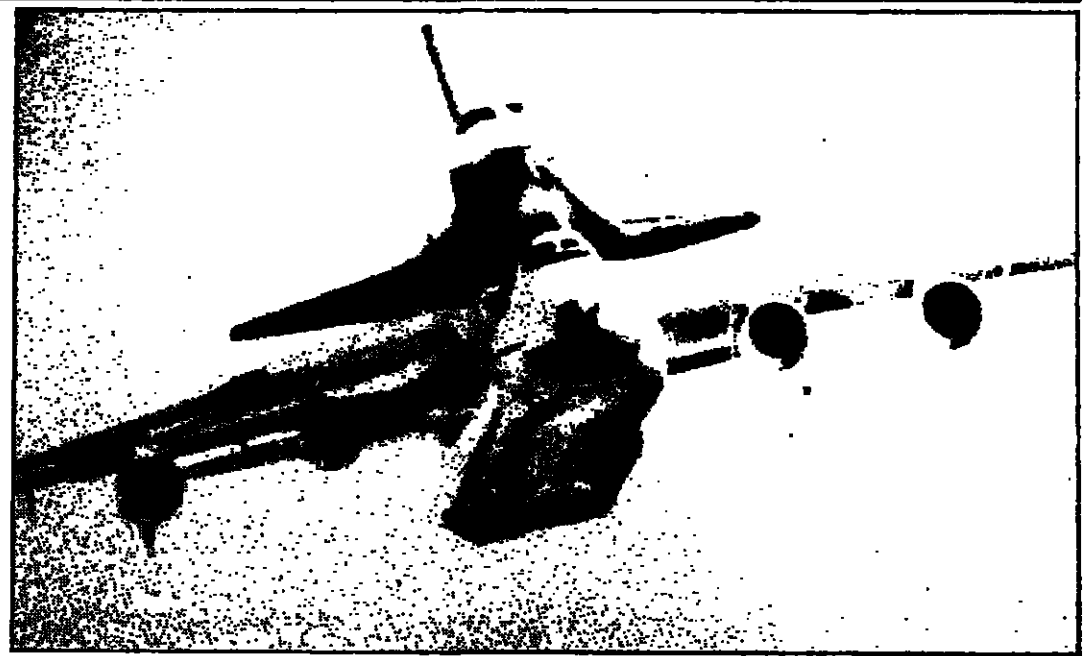
7 plunge to death in faulty lift

L'HOSPITALET DE LLOBREGAT, Spain, May 22, (Reuters): A faulty hospital lift plunged eight floors into a basement yesterday killing seven people who were visiting their sick relatives in this town near Barcelona, a hospital spokesman said.

Initial investigations suggested the accident was caused by a pulley breaking off as the lift was going up. The emergency brakes were also being examined to see why they had not worked, he said.

Six victims, including a 12-year-old boy, died immediately. Firemen freed a seventh person from the wreckage who died shortly afterwards.

Despite initial reports of more casualties, the spokesman said that only seven people had been in the lift.



'Buran' flight

The Soviet aircraft 'Myria' carries the Soviet spacecraft 'Buran' during a flight near Kiev. The Soviets have announced that both the spacecraft and the airplane will be on display at the upcoming Paris air show. (Reuters wirephoto).

We took three of our standard Turbos out for a spin around the track. 23,556 laps later, at average speeds of around 210 km/h, all three Saabs had put 100,000 km behind them and set a total of 21 international speed records and two world records. Pretty good going for standard five-seaters.



ough torrential rain and blistering sun, the three production-series Saab Turbos carried on regardless. After 20 days and nights of tained high-speed driving, each of the cars flew past the 100,000 km milestone averaging speeds of 213.259 km/h, 210.083 km/h and 208.084 km/h respectively. The times include pauses for refuelling and oil changes (courtesy of Shell), changing the Pirelli P600 s a'd servicing. Saab's high-speed test was sanctioned by and run according to FISA's international rules.

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Guerrilla wars are bigger US threats

WASHINGTON, May 22, (AP) — US troops face a greater threat of becoming involved in war because of guerrilla insurgencies in such places as Central America, Peru or the Philippines than from tensions with the Soviet Union, a Defence Department specialist says.

"That's the real threat. It's the real war," William Olson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Defence for low-intensity conflict, said in a recent interview. "But it's very difficult to go to the American public and convince them that a country that has a population less than Cook County, Illinois, is a threat to national security."

Olson and others say Defence Department strategy for the past 40 years has focussed on possible confrontation with the Soviet Union, leading in turn to an emphasis on massive troop deployments and expensive, hi-tech weapons.

They say the Defence Department's failure to concentrate more on guerrilla war left the United States ill-prepared to deal with such low-intensity conflicts, which Olson says can pose "a threat to our economic interests, a threat to political values, a threat to the survival of our friends and allies."

Congress, noting the importance of the issue, in 1986 mandated a special office to co-ordinate low-intensity conflict and special operations. It called for a new command, an added assistant secretary of defence and a special board within the National Security Council.

Since then, legislators have given high marks to the military for moving ahead with the special operations command, which unites the elite units of the Army, Air Force and Navy at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida. But they point to foot-dragging surrounding low-intensity conflict policy.

Army Col Ed Smith, in a position paper about low-intensity conflict last year, said it is "total war" and described it as "an armed conflict in a Third World country that affects national security interests — a conflict which has the potential to involve US armed combat forces."

Smith preferred the term "high-probability conflict" and defined it as "our Marxist-Leninist foes exploiting a US vulnerability — the seams between the Department of State, Department of Defence, and Congress."

None of czar's family survived executioners

MOSCOW, May 22, (UPI) — Czar Nicholas II carried the hemophiliac Czarovich in his arms to the basement room of execution in a Siberian merchants' house in which the entire royal family including Princess Anastasia was shot dead, the Ogonek magazine said yesterday.

"This should put an end to all stories of a miraculous escape by Anastasia who supposedly got away," said the Ogonek article based on what it called on a secret file removed in 1940 but recently found in the central archives of the October Revolution.

The detailed, five-page article with

pictures in the country's most popular weekly magazine, recounted a blood-plattered scene of horror in which 12 Chekist (secret police) executioners shot the entire czar's family to death in the abandoned Ipatyev merchants home in Ekaterinburg the night of July 16, 1918.

The article, based on a report by the head executioner, Yakov Yurovsky, detailed a night of bungling by those detailed to destroy the bodies, which were not buried until almost three days till the night of July 18.

It said the various versions about where the bodies were disposed had led

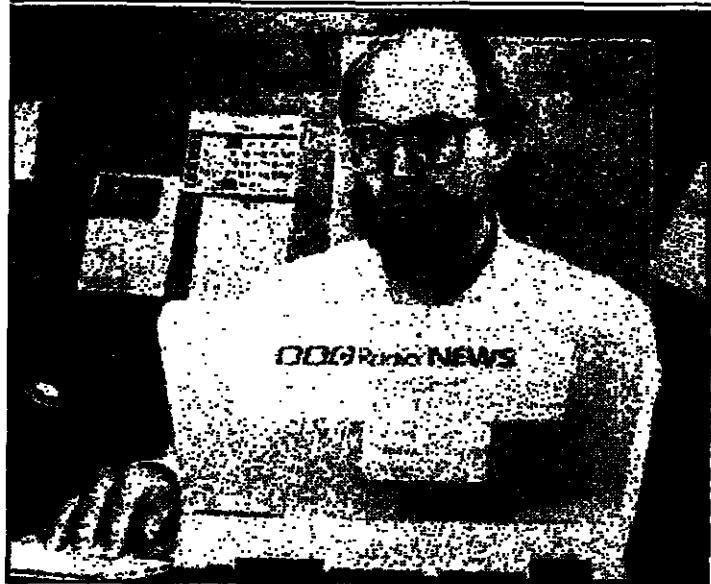
to the reports about a survival by Anastasia or other members of the royal family.

"There have been so many versions about this," it said, indicating the article was the final word.

The report backed up an earlier story last month in the weekly Moscow News

newspaper that the skull of Nicholas II and the other members of the czar's family had been found by an investigator.

The article said the original reports by Yurovsky had never been published, namely that it took nearly three days to dispose of the bodies.



Jeremy Harris



Ian Glover-James

UK journalists expelled

Pawns in spy chess game

LONDON, May 22, (AP) — Three British journalists complained today of getting caught in a diplomatic chess game after the Soviet Union ordered them and eight diplomats expelled for alleged espionage in response to Britain's ejection of 11 Soviets.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government accused the Soviet Union of stepping up intelligence-gathering in Britain and on Friday secretly ordered eight Soviet diplomats and three journalists to leave the country.

The government said it only decided to make public the expulsions when the Soviet Union responded Saturday night with what the British Ambassador to Moscow, Sir Rodric Braithwaite, called "a mirror-image act of retaliation."

Britain said its expulsions were legitimate and

that the Soviet response was unjustified. The Soviet Union had no immediate comment on the expulsions. Each group was given 14 days to leave.

In London, news organisations urged Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to reconsider the expulsion of journalists, and some commentators expressed disappointment that his reforms at home could not be extended to Soviet operations abroad.

One of the expelled journalists, Sunday Times correspondent Angus Roxburgh, said he was as angry with London as with the Kremlin over "being caught up in the latest diplomatic chess game."

The other journalists, Jeremy Harris of the BBC and Ian Glover-James of Independent Television News, flatly denied any improper conduct.

Human rights violations

UN looking into allegations

TOKYO, May 22, (AP) — A United Nations human rights official began a 10-day visit today to look into alleged human rights violations under the Japanese legal system.

Jacob Meller, director of communications at the UN Centre for Human Rights in Geneva, met today with Toshio Tsumozaki, director of the human rights and refugees division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for what a Japanese official described as an "exchange of ideas."

Human rights groups in Japan have told UN agencies that Japanese police detain prisoners without allowing them access to lawyers and use physical and mental coercion, including deprivation of food, water and family, in order to extract confessions.

Japanese lawyer Masatoshi Uchida charged last August at the UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities that detention conditions "contravene international law as embodied in the United Nations charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" and other international accords.

Opposition leader vows to carry out reform

TOKYO, May 22, (UPI) — The new leader of Japan's No. 2 opposition party vowed in his inaugural speech yesterday to carry out reforms to restore public trust in the party tarnished by the sweeping influence-buying political scandal.

Koshiro Ishida, 58, was formally elected chairman of the Komeito (Clean Government Party) in a party convention held in Tokyo yesterday.

Komeito is the political arm of Japan's largest neo-Buddhist organisation Soka Gakkai with a membership of more than six million followers.

Ishida, deputy chairman of the party since December 1986, succeeded Junya Yano who stepped down Wednesday to take responsibility for the party's involvement in the scandal.

Yano was not named in the current scandal but was implicated in another questionable share-trading affair in 1987.

"The most urgent task facing our new leadership today is to clean up the party to restore public trust in our party," Ishida said in his inaugural speech at the convention.

He also called for unity of non-communist opposition parties to force Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita to dissolve the law-making lower house of the Diet or parliament and call a new election.

Takeshita, who has power to dissolve the chamber, has so far refused opposition demands for a new election.

The four-year term for the 512-seat lower house is due to expire next year.

Ishida said the Komeito is ready to support Takako Doi, chairwoman of the No. 1 opposition Japan Socialist Party, for the premiership in the new session of parliament.

Takeshita, 64, has announced his decision to resign as prime minister and president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party after the 60.4 trillion yen (\$457.6 billion) 1989 fiscal budget has been enacted.

The budget, which was forced through the lower house amid a boycott by opposition party, now is up for discussion in the upper house.

See Politicians indicted Page 11

Call for ouster of three Armenian leaders

MOSCOW, May 22, (AP) — A crowd estimated at 200,000 rallied in downtown Yerevan and called for the ouster of Armenia's top three leaders, a reliable local activist said today.

The demonstration, held yesterday, called for a resolution of the long-festering conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, a largely Armenian enclave in Azerbaijan, said Rafael

Popoyan in a telephone interview. Clashes between the two ethnic groups stemming partially from the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict killed more than 90 people last year.

The demonstrators called for the replacement of Armenia's Communist Party chief and the republic's president and premier.

The crowd decided to suspend a four-day-old general strike among schools and many businesses in anticipation of Thursday's opening of the nation's new Parliament, Popoyan said. Armenia's deputies to that Parliament were to meet today or tomorrow to discuss plans for asking the new representative body to take on the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh, he said.

Gorbachev to have more powers: plenum opens

Major shakeup expected

MOSCOW, May 22, (Reuters) — The Communist Party Central Committee today nominated Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev for a new post of president with wider powers before a revamped parliament opens later this week, Tass news agency said.

At a plenary session, the Central Committee also heard a declaration from Politburo member Yegor Ligachev, apparently in response to allegations that he has figured in a corruption probe along with several other top officials.

Tass did not say whether Ligachev's statement, read out at the plenum, addressed the accusations against him but said the general prosecutor's office was probing the matters he referred to. His statement would be published.



Endara, is embraced by a supporter after arriving in Chorrera, to attend mass. Two thousand Panamanians attended to cheer on Endara. (Reuters wirephoto)

Opposition tries to rally support

OAS visit set

PANAMA CITY, May 22, (AP) — The three main opposition leaders made weekend appearances in markets and a church, rallying supporters in advance of a visit by a delegation from the Organisation of American States.

The OAS approved a resolution last week criticising Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, Panama's de facto ruler, and called for "a transfer of power in the shortest possible time."

International observers have said opposition presidential candidate Guillermo Endara defeated Noriega's hand-picked candidate, Carlos Duque, in May 7, elections. But the Noriega-controlled government nullified the elections because of what it called vote fraud and foreign interference.

The opposition candidates have asked the OAS to try to pressure Panama to reverse the nullification and negotiate a peaceful transfer of power.

Yesterday, Endara and opposition vice-presidential candidates Ricardo Arias Calderon and Guillermo Ford received raucous applause from about 1,000 worshippers at a church, 18 miles (29 kilometres) west of Panama City.

On Saturday, the three made their first campaign-style appearances since being assaulted by paramilitary forces on May 10. They toured a series of marketplaces in and near the capital.

The tour was the opposition's first attempt to rally against Noriega since Wednesday, when a general strike fizzled.

The candidates' campaign swing violated a government ban

on demonstrations decreed early Saturday.

The ban is supposed to last until June 5, when the OAS delegation is due to report back to the organisation's headquarters in Washington.

The foreign ministers of Ecuador, Guatemala and Trinidad and Tobago, along with OAS Secretary-General Joao Baeta Soares, are due in Panama on Tuesday to try to promote a peaceful resolution of the crisis.

Most Panamanians took advantage of the weekend to relax. Police, including members of special riot-control battalions, were given leave.

Thousands flocked to beaches and an ocean breeze. Roads were jammed as usual at dusk yesterday with cars and buses returning to Panama City from weekend outings.

In their visit to the Parish Church of San Francisco in La Chorrera yesterday, the opposition candidates were greeted with applause and chants of "justice" and "Endara is president."

Most of Panama's 2.5 million people are Roman Catholics and the church spoke out in defence of the popular will after the election was annulled.

Nevertheless, Archbishop Marcos McGrath, primate of Panama, has asked the opposition not to conduct rallies in churches.

"These gentlemen (the opposition) are Christians and can come to mass here," said the Rev. Jose Luis Andrade, San Francisco's parish priest.

"But we are here to honour God, and this cannot be converted into a political act," Andrade said.

The Central Committee also adopted resolutions on the proceedings of the new, more powerful parliament — the Congress of People's Deputies — which opens on Thursday, Tass said without giving details.

The party's central committee meets after outspoken maverick Boris Yeltsin predicted in an interview with the Washington Post there would be a major shakeup in the leadership.

The Central Committee, now pared to 251 members after 104 elderly members were forced to resign last month, may be in for high-spirited debate, a diplomat said. Only the Central Committee can remove anyone from the ruling Politburo.

But the Western diplomat said the only certain change would be the removal of alternate Politburo member Yuri Solov'yev, the Leningrad regional boss who was repudiated by voters March 26 in his bid to be a member of the new parliament.

Even though Solov'yev ran on a one-name slate, more than 50 per cent of the Leningrad electorate crossed out his name, snubbing him.

The new Congress of Peoples Deputies is to convene Thursday, and the diplomat said that for Gorbachev's democratic reforms to be credible, "there will have to be some (Politburo) dismissals."

In announcing the plenum, the Tass news agency said only, "the plenum is to be held May 22" and that the plenum was discussed at a Saturday Politburo session.

The diplomat, who last month correctly predicted a purge of the Central Committee, said Yeltsin may be at the centre of the plenum debate.

Fired two years ago as the party boss of Moscow and then kicked out of the Politburo, Yeltsin in a rare Soviet comeback won a seat in March in the new parliament on a populist platform that economic reform known as perestroika is not putting goods on the shelves.

Yeltsin in the Post interview said the first person who should be dismissed from the Politburo for retarding perestroika is Yegor Ligachev, once No. 2 to Gorbachev but now in charge of agriculture.

Parliament

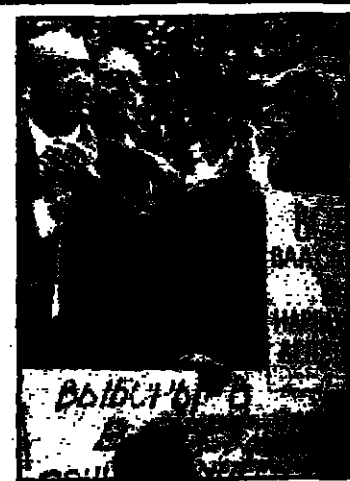
Ligachev, who always has been free of any taint of wrongdoing, has vigorously denied implied of unspecified charges made in public by two state prosecutors that he was involved in corruption.

A special government commission is investigating the two prosecutors for how they convicted Leonid Brezhnev's son-in-law, Yuri Churbanov, of accepting bribes.

The newly elected Soviet parliament will hold its opening session this week in the wake of the first partially democratic election in seven decades of communist rule.

Yet hardly anybody, including many of the candidates, quite knows how it will operate or what power it will have.

Expectations are high after a rowdy campaign that shook the party establishment.



Sakharov (right), Soviet writer Ales Adamovich (centre) and special investigator on corruption Telman Golyan recently relieved from duty, applaud during a mass rally in Moscow. (Reuters wirephoto)

Reformers demand radical agenda

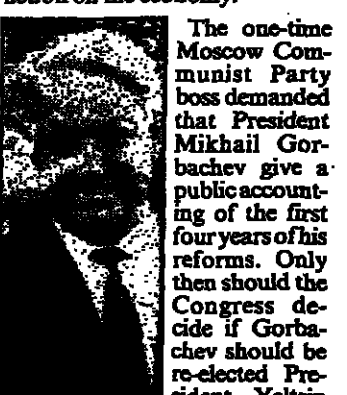
MOSCOW, May 22, (AP) — At a rally attended by about 30,000 people, Boris Yeltsin and other reformers called for a new Soviet Congress were cheered as they swore to substitute their own radical reforms for the agenda of the Communist Party.

"If, at this historic moment that is so important for the future of our country, we permit the apparatus to dictate to us as it has in past decades, we will not advance, but sink back into the swamp from which we'd only begun to extricate ourselves," Yeltsin told the crowd at yesterday's rally.

The Communist Party, whose members constitute 80 per cent of the new congress, convened a session of its policy-making Central Committee today to work out its own plans for the new parliament.

But many of the 2,250 new legislators in the Congress of People's Deputies are independent-minded communists, and it is not known if they will follow the party line. The Congress opens Thursday.

Yeltsin himself is a member of the party's 251-member Central Committee. Yet at yesterday's rally he called for contested presidential elections and urgent action on the economy.



Yeltsin declared.

Gorbachev was unanimously elected to that post without an opponent on Oct. 1. But that election was by the Supreme Soviet, a rubber stamp legislature that is being superseded by the Congress of People's Deputies, which will choose a new Supreme Soviet from among its members.

Human rights activist Andrei Sakharov told yesterday's rally that the Congress itself, not the smaller Supreme Soviet that it will elect from its members, should be the supreme legislative authority.

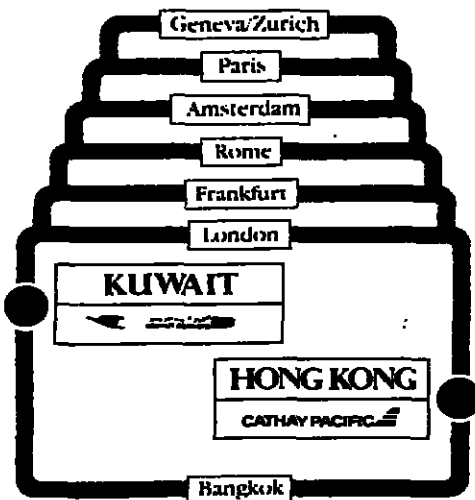
The Congress, directly elected by the people and a number of organisations, includes hundreds of reformers, but it is not clear if they are a large enough faction to win selection to the working parliament.

The Communist Party's plan also were unclear. All 12 full members of the party's politburo, which effectively rules the country today, were elected deputies. It was not known if they intend to serve as legislators.

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German woman jailed in Cyprus for murder

FAMAGUSTA, Cyprus, May 22, (AP) — A criminal court in this north Cyprus city today sentenced a German woman to four years in prison for the killing of a Turkish Cypriot man who allegedly raped her daughter.

Hedwig Ute Loh, 48, of West Berlin, received an additional term of three months for possession of narcotics. Her daughter Melani, 20, was sentenced to three years in prison for her part in the strangling of 20-year-old Ozmen Tulga near the village of Yeni Erenkoy (Yalusa) on the Cape Andreas peninsula.

The women had pleaded not guilty, saying they killed Tulga in self-defence.

Last week the court rejected the self-defence plea and said the women were guilty of murder.

The judges said evidence showed that the two women had strangled the man after he was rendered harmless and unable to continue his assault following a struggle with the Lohs.

In today's session defence attorney Ali

Dana listed the extenuating circumstances that played a role in the killing and asked for the minimum possible penalty.

Dana said at the time of the incident the women were terrorised and in panic and thus unable to think of the legal consequences of their action. He said because of the rape they had suffered psychological injury and would require treatment in the future.

He also said the defendants had not escaped, tried to go into hiding or attempted to cover up the killing.

250 arrested

(Continued from Page 1)

Palestinians also should amend the PLO covenant which calls for Israel's destruction and "translate the dialogue of violence in the intifada into a dialogue of politics and diplomacy," Baker added.

Baker's speech, to 1,200 members of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), placed major responsibility on Israel and Arabs to foster an atmosphere in which direct peace negotiations could eventually take place.

AIPAC delegates applauded when Baker made demands of Arabs for peace but sat silent when he outlined similar requirements expected of the Jewish state.

Responding to US pressure, Israel recently proposed a four-point peace initiative, including elections for a Palestinian delegation in the occupied lands that would negotiate a period of interim self-rule and later, final status of the territories, seized in the 1967 Middle East war.

Baker acknowledged the Israeli plan "has given us something with which to work" and "deserves a constructive and broader Arab response."

In clashes yesterday soldiers shot and killed two Palestinians and wounded at least 25, according to hospital reports. The deaths raised the number of Palestinians killed in the uprising to 496. Twenty-two Israelis have been slain.

Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai, head of the Army's central command, said the arrest operation was a "decisive blow" to Hamas, an organisation of Muslim fundamentalists.

"In the long term... there will be a reduction of violence in the area," Mordechai said in comments broadcast on Israeli Radio. Hamas' spiritual leader Sheikh Hamad Yassin was among those detained in the swoop.

An Army announcement said security forces confiscated 18 weapons, including pistols, US-made M-16 and Soviet Kalashnikov automatic rifles, Israeli Uzi submachine guns and Swedish Karl Gustav rifles.

Military officials said the operation was the largest since the Palestinian rebellion against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip began in December 1987.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Tribal fighting

KHARTOUM, Sudan, May 22, (AP): More than 150 persons have been killed in tribal fighting over grazing areas and land ownership in the western Sudan region of Darfur, reports in Sudanese newspapers said yesterday.

Officials meet

ABU DHABI, May 22, (UPI): Information officials from Saudi Arabia and its Gulf allies will meet in Riyadh tomorrow to co-ordinate action against "hostile" foreign news media, the Emirates news agency reported today.

Snake exhibition

DUBAI, May 22, (KUNA): Snake charmers from East and West are currently in Dubai to entertain visitors at the snake exhibition, opened here yesterday, in which more than 500 dangerous and poisonous snakes and scorpions are on display.

Experts meet

RIVADH, May 22, (KUNA): The Arab education bureau for Arab Gulf states convened a meeting that groups information and education experts at the Saudi capital May 29-30.

Compensation

ABU DHABI, May 22, (Reuters): The United States is advising relatives of people killed when a US warship shot down an Iranian Airbus over the Gulf last year not to sue the US government for compensation.

Poisonings

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 22, (AP): An Israeli factory worker died and 19 others were hospitalised in a spate of mysterious poisonings at a paper diaper manufacturer in northern Israel, a police spokesman said today.

Iraq's tourism

BAGHDAD, May 22, (Reuters): Iraq, which ended eight years of war with Iran last August, is opening its doors to foreign tourists.



A helping hand

Hands reach for loaves of Afghan flat bread called nan at a bakery queue in Kabul yesterday. Bread, which is the mainstay of the Afghan diet, has been in short supply since a rebel blockade of Kabul began in January. Bread lines have become a common sight despite a massive Soviet airlift to relieve shortages. (Reuters wirephoto)

Vorontsov meets mujahedeen

Autonomy offer made to rebels

KABUL, Afghanistan, May 22, (Agencies): President Najibullah yesterday offered a dozen rebel field commanders full autonomy in their regions if they stop fighting the government and help end the decade-old civil war.

In Iran, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov met with Iran-based Afghan rebels and said their view of the future of their country conformed with the Soviet view. Tehran Radio reported yesterday.

Vorontsov added that the rebel leaders had been invited to Moscow, the radio said.

But he said the eight-party group did not agree that the Soviet-backed government of Najibullah should be included in a future Kabul administration.

Najibullah also appealed to the exiled king to do what he can to help restore peace to Afghanistan.

"These people hold the destiny of future generations in their hands," Najibullah told the Loya Jirga, the supreme governing body. "A non-aligned and free Afghanistan cannot be obtained through military activities."

The Loya Jirga, or grand assembly, met over the weekend to extend a nation-wide state of emergency for six months and empower the President to add another six months if he deems necessary.

The Loya Jirga, meeting for only the 17th time since it was formed in 1702, is comprised of government officials, businessmen and tribal leaders. It meets to decide matters of pressing national importance.

In the assembly's opening session Saturday, Najibullah said a

three-member commission would be appointed to negotiate with the rebels anywhere, at any time and on any terms.

Yesterday, he went a step further and made his pitch to a dozen field commanders operating inside the country.

His moves were seen as signs the Kabul government is feeling the pressure of defending itself without Soviet troops.

"It is a great burden to be a field commander and I realise they have borne a great and arduous weight, unlike the luxury their leaders have enjoyed in exiles," said Najibullah, who uses one name.

Najibullah said the government would help them if they stopped fighting and agreed to reconciliation.

"They can have power and sovereignty in their locality. They can have full military rank and full military authority and they can keep their weapons. They will be permitted their own autonomous administration," he said.

Najibullah said his government met with field commanders inside Afghanistan and with rebel leaders in neighbouring Pakistan, where the Muslim rebels are based, but the gave no details of the talks.

Asked if the dozen field commanders named by Najibullah had been contacted by the government, Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Azami said, "it's a safe assumption."

In another development Muslim rebels killed 61 government troops in new attacks on the weekend around Afghanistan's southeastern city of Kandahar, it was reported today.

Benazir may seek Turkish backing on Afghan issue

ANKARA, May 22, (Reuters): Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto starts a four-day visit to Turkey on Wednesday for talks likely to be dominated by Afghanistan and increased co-operation, diplomats said today.

Benazir will meet Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and President Kenan Evren, who visited Islamabad in February.

She is expected to ask Ankara's help in breaking the deadlock over plans for a

broad-based government in Afghanistan following February's Soviet troop withdrawal, a Pakistani diplomatic source said.

"Look at the list of the countries which can have influence on various groups of Afghan mujahedeen and you will see Turkey high on the list," the source said.

Turkey, a NATO member, has said it supports efforts to form a government representing all sections.

President Najibullah, head of the

Soviet-backed Kabul government, threatened on Saturday to fire rockets at Afghan rebels on Pakistani territory if Pakistani troops intervened in the war.

Islamabad, which has supported the rebels since the conflict began in 1979, denies any direct military involvement.

Diplomats said there were no immediate plans by Turkey or Pakistan to boost sluggish trade, which totalled \$60 million in 1988, but the visit would seal their

traditional close friendship.

Benazir will visit an F-16 plant near Ankara where Turkey is co-producing the US-designed fighter planes.

Pakistan is interested in Ankara's views on the Middle East, especially as mainly Turkey has relations with Israel as well as the PLO, the source said.

Turkey is likely to seek support for the Turkish Republic of North Cyprus, recognised only by Ankara.

Young uprising leaders reject polls

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 22, (Reuters): Young Palestinians who help organise the Arab uprising in the occupied territories say they reject Israel's proposals for Palestinian elections.

Their comments, in interviews with Reuters over the weekend, made clear they advocated a harder line than their leaders in the 17-month-old uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"I completely reject (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir's plan, as long as it

does not take into consideration a Palestinian state or self-determination for the people," said Abbas, 22, who spoke on condition he was not further identified.

"Shamir has clearly said if Palestinians do not accept this plan, Israel will crush the intifada. The main purpose of this plan is to end the intifada, in order to satisfy the Israeli left and the Israeli right," he said.

Israel's peace initiative, endorsed by the government and parliament last week and

supported by US President George Bush, calls for elections in the occupied territories of Palestinians who can negotiate interim self-rule with Israel.

Local Palestinian spokesmen and the PLO have rejected the plan as it stands but have not ruled out elections on condition they are part of a comprehensive settlement. They demand international supervision and the participation of East Jerusalem Palestinians.

But Abbas and four other West Bank

"field leaders" of the uprising, or intifada in Arabic, take a harder line.

"We don't think this is a plan, we think it is just a step for the media," said Munzer, 22, who identified himself with the communist wing of the PLO.

He and the others said they were sure the PLO would not accept the Israeli plan in any form. "We know our leadership," said Munzer. "I don't think the PLO is so dumb as to give away all the achievements of the intifada by accepting the plan of Shamir."

Leaders gather for summit

(Continued from Page 1)

HIGHLIGHTS

■ **Welcome back:** Egypt has returned to the heart of Arab counsels after a 10-year absence, ready to strengthen Arab backing for the PLO's drive to set up a Palestinian state alongside Israel. Egypt came in from the cold when its foreign minister took his seat with his Arab colleagues preparing for a summit meeting of the 22-member Arab League to start in Casablanca today.

"All the ministers, including the Syrian foreign minister, congratulated Egypt on its return," a jubilant Esmat Abdel-Maguid told reporters after the Sunday night session. (Reuters)

■ **Difficult task:** The Arab League stepped deeper into Lebanon's murky affairs on Sunday when foreign ministers tried to decide who should represent the divided country at the Arab summit opening today. The problem dominated a meeting of six Arab ministers who have been trying to mediate since January between Lebanon's two rival governments, delegates said.

The league's special Lebanon envoy, Lakhdar Ibrahim, was quoted by the official Moroccan news agency as saying afterwards that the mediators had only managed to secure a partial ceasefire. But sources at the meeting said the main immediate problem was who should sit in Lebanon's seat at the summit. No decision was reached. (Reuters)

■ **Arab force:** Jordan will propose to the Arab summit in Morocco that an Arab peacekeeping force replace Syrian troops in Lebanon as a step towards ending the 14-year civil war there, a senior Jordanian official said yesterday. Jordan's King Hussein and Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Bin Shaker left for Casablanca to attend the summit.

The Jordanian official said that King Hussein, concerned at the worsening situation in Lebanon where Christian and Muslim factions are deadlocked over the country's future, would propose an Arab peacekeeping force at the meeting. The official said the plan was part of an overall move to help the Lebanese people work out a reconciliation formula that would restore political balance in the country.

■ **Positive visit:** Iran's foreign minister has described talks he had in Syria ahead of the summit as positive and constructive, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported yesterday. Syria was Iran's strongest Arab supporter in its eight-year war with Iraq and the two countries generally share a radical view of the Middle East conflict.

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Ali Akbar Velayati as saying on return to Tehran that his two-day visit was necessary for consultations before the summit. But the daily Tehran Times, which is close to the Iranian Foreign Ministry, criticised Syria last week for welcoming Egypt's return to the Arab fold at the summit. (Reuters)



Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz (left) and his Omani counterpart Yousef Al Alawi attend the foreign ministers' meeting.



Egyptian Prime Minister Atel Sedki (right) welcomed South Yemen's President Haider Abu Baker Al Attas during a brief stop at Cairo airport yesterday.



Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara (right) leaves the foreign ministers' plenary session escorted by a bodyguard on Sunday. (Reuters wirephotos).

Debate over executive power

Iran's constitution committee divided

NICOSIA, May 22, (AP): The committee mandated to review Iran's constitution appears divided over the issue of executive power, according to a newspaper report carried by the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) today.

The daily Tehran Times said the 20-member committee appointed by Ayatollah Khomeini favours eliminating the post of prime minister, but the necessary majority had yet to approve the move.

Eliminating the post would centralise power in the hands of the president, who would probably be acting commander in chief of the armed forces and head other influential legislative committees, the report said.

His cabinet would have to be approved by the Majlis, or Parliament.

If the post of prime minister is retained, the report said, then the presidency would be just a "titular role with no executive capability."

Under the current system Iran has both a president and a prime minister, which had not a positive record in running the country, the paper said. "This is the main flaw," it said.

"No one doubts the necessity of the surgery in the executive power as its bifurcate nature has hampered the execution of law," IRNA quoted the paper as saying.

The paper said the Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, President Ali Khamenei and Ayatollah Ali Meshkini, head of the constitutional revision council, all appear to support eliminating the post of prime minister.

Rafsanjani is the only announced candidate for president.

The debate over the shape of the future constitution comes amidst a harsher competition between pragmatists and hardliners over the shape of the country, especially once the 88-year-old Khomeini dies.

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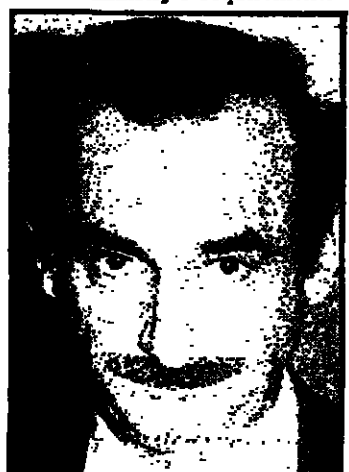
65 different types

DR NAEL AL NAQEEB, Undersecretary at Kuwait's Ministry of Public Health, was quoted as saying that Kuwait Pharmaceuticals Industries Company had started producing 65 categories of medicines needed by Kuwait.

In an interview with a local magazine, Naqeeb, who is also chairman of the Pharmaceutical Industries Company, had described this project as vital to Kuwait and the region in general. He disclosed that a preliminary agreement was concluded among the Arab Gulf Health Ministries for establishing of pharmaceutical industries to meet the region's requirements. The agreement is based on establishing an integrated medicines industries. Some minor points are yet to be finalised, he added.

The Kuwaiti pharmaceuticals plant has been established in accordance with the latest international levels, and the Ministry of Public Health is purchasing some of its requirements from the plant at competitive prices. He added that the plant's products are exported to the Gulf.

Replying to a question, Naqeeb said that the Ministry of Public Health's medicine budget ranges between KD23 to 24 millions. The pharmaceuticals plant produces about 20 per cent of the ministry's requirements.



Dr Nael Al Naqeeb

He expressed hope that the percentage will be increased in the future.

Meanwhile, Naqeeb acknowledged that there was a shortage of antibiotics in the ministry's pharmacies and its polyclinics last year. This issue had been raised during the debate of the ministry's medicine budget which had allocated an increase of KD6.5 million for the medicine budget, the official added.

In this context, Naqeeb clarified that the ministry does not provide the polyclinics with all kinds of antibiotics. Certain types of antibiotics were supposed to be given by the hospitals only.

Apart from these problems, the Kuwaiti clinics and polyclinics were under pressure due to an increase in patients and it was difficult for the ministry's officials to define the needs of each clinic or polyclinic precisely, particularly in a country where the people under 15 years of age constituted about 40 per cent of the total population.

He criticised the misuse of medicine by the public, but expressed hopes that this phenomenon will disappear in the future, particularly after the application of the new registration system in the clinics and polyclinics which is expected to alleviate the pressure and eventually rationalise medicine dispensation.

Meanwhile, a Bahrain health official said that the total value of pharmaceuticals purchased annually by the Gulf Arab countries is one billion dollars. Total value of unified GCC purchase of medications over the past ten years is in excess of \$245 million. Assistant undersecretary for technical and preventative affairs at Bahrain's Public Health Ministry, Dr Ibrahim Yaqoob, told a local Bahraini magazine that the growing consumption of medications by the GCC countries prompted a desire to draw up a strategy to set up a national pharmaceutical industry to counteract foreign medical monopoly in the area.

Iraq, Kuwait hold development talks

KUWAIT, May 22, (KUNA): Iraqi Minister of Planning Saman Majid Faraj arrived here Monday on a four-day official visit to Kuwait at the invitation of Minister of Planning Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdullah Al-Awadhi.

On arrival, Faraj said he is carrying the greetings of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to His Highness the Amir, and told KUNA and Radio Kuwait that the visit would be a chance for exchanging views, ideas and experiences in different planning and development sectors.

He added that he will discuss with Dr Awadhi on the economic, development and planning relations between the two countries. He expressed hope that the visit would be an effective and good contribution for developing strong bilateral relations.

He also hoped that the visit would be a good chance for starting the process of forging a full system of coordination in the planning and development sectors.

On planning in Iraq in the post-war stage, Faraj said "we would certainly reconsider the main principles relating to development and economic development in Iraq in the light of the new circumstances at present in Iraq."

We hoped that he and Dr. Awadhi would agree on a programme for cooperation between the planning ministries in both countries. Faraj is scheduled to be received tomorrow by His Highness the Amir and will hold two rounds of talks with Dr Awadhi.

During his stay, he will get acquainted with the Kuwait development plan and ways of its implementation and will visit the Arab Planning Institute, the Public Authority for Civil Information and a number of economic, scientific and cultural establishments.

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High Kuwaiti birth rate encouraged

By Jamal Amin

ASSISTANT Undersecretary for Administrative and Financial Affairs at Kuwait's Ministry of Planning Dawoud Al-Hamdan has been quoted as saying that there is a general trend at state level for realising the population balance. This constitutes an important objective in the current and new development plan, he added.

Replying to a question on the new five-year plan's objectives towards realising the demographic balance, the official said: Although this is premature, the next plan will follow the same steps followed by the current one which concentrates on preserving the high Kuwaiti birth rate. The

drop in births constitutes a demographic phenomenon which coincided with some economic and social developments.

He added that the next plan will concentrate on upgrading the country's human resources by enhancing the national work force contribution. The plan will strive to improve the performance level of these resources in order to minimise the need for a foreign work force.

He added: "A selective policy in dealing with the foreign workforce will be followed during the next development plan in order to minimise the great number of expatriate workforce currently available in the country."

Replying to a question over the role of

the private sector in the development process, the official said that the current five-year-plan called for enhancing its role and preparing the necessary conditions to encourage the private sector to play a part in national economic and social development.

He added that the current five-year-plan had also included the completion of the country's infrastructural projects in the fields of transport, warehousing and communication in order to preserve the economic stability and averting fluctuations that may affect the current economic level.

Apart from the above, the plan had included the possibility of de-nationalising some sectors in order to encourage the investment movement.

Speaking of his ministry activities Hamdan said that the Ministry of Planning was striving to develop the national human resources.

Speaking of the Kuwaitisation policy in the ministry, the official said that the Kuwaitis constituted 52 per cent of the employees and the ministry was striving to enhance the percentage without affecting efficiency.

He added, apart from the above the ministry was striving to create a category of senior officials to make the correct decision to translate the government apparatus from a traditional one into an effective one to shoulder the responsibility of implementing the comprehensive developmental plan.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Al Houti meetings

KUWAIT, May 22, (KUNA): Minister of Public Works Abdul Rahman Al Houti Monday received separately the Canadian and Indian ambassadors to Kuwait Lawrence Dickenson and Nagendra Jha.

Discussions during the meeting centred on ways of boosting bilateral co-operation between the two countries and Kuwait.

Amir thanked

KUWAIT, May 22, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir received Monday a cable from the secretary-general of the International Islamic Council for Dawa (call) and Relief.

The cable relayed the thanks of Islamic relief institutions and members at the International Islamic Council for Call and Relief in Khartoum for H.H.'s assistance to the Sudan and hoped for its continuation to help it overcome disasters and conspiracies.

Amiri audience

KUWAIT, May 22, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir received in audience Monday HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah to take permission before flying to Morocco.

Sheikh Saad will lead Kuwait's delegation to the emergency Arab summit to be held May 23-25.

Victims referred

KUWAIT, May 22, (KUNA): Victims of the Lebanese civil war receiving treatment in Kuwait would be soon referred to specialised hospitals as doctors were now reporting their final diagnosis of the 70 cases or so that they are working on, a senior health official said Sunday.

Head of the Health Ministry casualties department Dr Mohammed Al Menai told KUNA those who need amputations would be referred to artificial parts specialists for rehabilitation, while others suffering burns would soon be operated on.

Information meet

KUWAIT, May 22, (KUNA): Information Ministry Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Jafer Monday left here for Riyadh leading Kuwait's delegation for the Gulf Co-operation Council information undersecretaries preparatory meeting scheduled for today.

The three-day meeting, aimed at preparing the agenda for the GCC information ministers meeting slated for May 30-31 in Bahrain.

The delegation comprises Information Assistant Undersecretary Ridha Al Falli and director of television programmes, Bader Al Mufel.

Bribe trial

THE doctor at the maternity hospital who has been suspended recently on a charge of accepting a bribe from one of his patients will appear before the Kuwait's criminal court tomorrow, a local daily reported.

It added that the court is to hold its session under the chairmanship of chancellor Abdulhadi Al Attat and judges Mohammed Maher and Yunus Al Yaseen. Public prosecution is represented by Abdurahman Al Dary.

Qurain workers

THE Indian Relief Committee will hold a special meeting on Friday, May 26, to wrap up the case of the Al Qurain construction workers. The meeting will be held at the Indian Embassy.

All those who have cooperated with the committee to feed the workers during their stay in Kuwait are requested to attend the meeting.

WEATHER

HOT summer weather with light to moderate northerly to north-easterly wind and some clouds will appear.
State of sea: Slight to moderate
High water: 2.35 am, 12.18 pm
Low water: 7.13 am, 8.20 pm
Sunrise: 4.52 am
Sunset: 6.38 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 44°C 111°F
Ahmad: 39°C 102°F
Faluha: 42°C 108°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 25°C 77°F
Ahmad: 30°C 86°F
Faluha: 30°C 86°F
Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 44°C 111°F
Ahmad: 40°C 104°F
Faluha: 42°C 108°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 19 per cent
Ahmad: 28 per cent
Faluha: 35 per cent

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A scene from last year's raft race

Fierce rivalry, high-tech adds edge to raft race '89

Dark horses make result uncertain

By Malcolm Walker

IN NOVEMBER last year raft racing went "international" when Kuwait's Mesilah Beach Hotel sent a team of 8 raftsmen to compete in the 17th Dubai Annual Raft Race. Now this, you may think, is taking things too far, but after all the Barcelona Olympics is not a long way off. All who went and witnessed the atmosphere, will relate splendid stories of how "we" just lost to the Dubai police. Rumour has it that there will be an entry from Dubai in the Kuwait event this year.

Old scores

You will have noticed and wondered recently, about those small groups of beefy men (and women) talking secretly in dark corners wherever you go, casting covert glances at suspected eavesdroppers whilst poring over drawings and weird model designs. Strange words like "aerodynamics", "winged keels" and "power-weight ratios" slip easily into their conversations and money furiously changes hands under the table. Yes, Kuwait's Third Annual Raft Race (on May 26) is upon us again; an event which will undoubtedly rival at least the last two, for sheer excitement, "needle" competition and fun for competitors and spectators alike.

There are scores to settle between old rival teams. Many

believe that the "Hash House Harriers" will take the trophy again, for the third time, but those "in the know" are apparently preferring certain outsiders. Race co-ordinator, Ray Jerry is quoted as saying that his Nike sponsored team, the "MBH Staying Power," is fitter and faster than ever before and should win. (Most of his team, have just "Run Kuwait", so who could argue that one?)

Last year's "Microlite" team with their bamboo raft and robbed of success after nearly sinking with a punctured drum, have a completely new set of canes, and already look good on the water.

Other informed sources are closely watching the American Embassy Team which came second last year but inform me that they are "unlikely to lose again."

Dark horses

Then there are the unknown dark horses. KDD, the race sponsors, are putting in several new teams which may well pull off a few surprises. The "Shower of Tossers" (better known for their prowess in the game of darts) are also new to the scene and at time of writing, I understand that the Perrier team, with "Bubbles", their uncarbonated raft, racing for the third year, fancy themselves as crystal clear favourites. If you know what I mean.

Two new entries from two construction companies W.S.

Atkins and Mouchel, with their design abilities and know-how, could upset the order and bring a welcome addition to the winner's rostrum. Other new faces include entries from the Kuwait International, the Airport Hotel and the Gulf English School (who are always enthusiastic about these things it seems).

This year promises to bring greater depth of experience with the introduction of the over 40's section with keen rivalry between the MBH "Featherlites" (I wonder if they've been tested?) and the Mini Rugby Club dade who have, I understand, strongly denied that they are using old balls for additional buoyancy.

We must not miss the mixed event and there are already 6 entries for the Jashanmal Ladies Race. The Americans "scent" victory after their disappointing 2nd place last year to the indomitable "Hash" Ladies.

Live music will be provided by the lovely June and the Phil Thomas Jazz Revival Band. There's a splendid fete, lots to eat and Leo's magic show for the kids.

The day culminates in a carnival event with all rafts back in the water for mayhem and frivolity. KDD are promising a great show this year and are hot favourites to win the prize for the most imaginative raft — many flour bags will be thrown before that is decided no doubt!

Cheats warned

Few shops bother with May sales

THE Director of Supply and Consumer Protection Department at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Abdulla Al Mulla has said that sales are held in January, March, May and November every year.

Owners of shops and companies are allowed during the sales of offer discounts on all items twice a year for 20 days of each sale. He added that merchants who want to participate in the sales should get licences from the Ministry of Commerce. Usually applications for participating in sales increase in May and November because of end of summer and winter. But he added that applications submitted for sales of this May are less than applications submitted in May last year.

Al Mulla pointed out that the ministry is convinced that the sales season serves the interests of consumers. The sales give discount of 20 per cent of prices before sales and are considered a good chance to merchants to sell goods which activates the commercial movement in Kuwait. But he added that some merchants cheat consumers by increasing prices during sales in order to get illegal profits.

Inspectors of the department seized a number of merchants who violated the regulations and tried to cheat consumers during the sales. Mulla added. Only ten different shops and companies are taking part in present sales season. He attributed the small number of shops and companies taking part to the strict procedures and control assumed by the department against owners of shops who do not abide by prices in lists submitted to the ministry before the start of season.

The ministry studies complaints submitted by citizens and they are published in local newspapers. The ministry insists that merchants provide lists of actual prices of items before sales to compare them with prices of sales, he said.

The ministry seized and punished 71 violating shops and commercial companies between 1985 and 1988, Mulla said.

KISR encouraging youth

New course opened

DIRECTOR-GENERAL of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) Dr Ahmad Al Jassar stressed that the institute will continue encouraging Kuwaiti youths to practice scientific research and develop their research spirit.

Delivering a speech on the occasion of the opening of the 14th course for university and secondary stage students, Jassar said that the institute will continue its objective in encouraging scientists. He added that success in this regard can only be expanded through joint efforts of establishments and individuals.

He stressed on the media role which he said could play an effective part in enhancing interests of youths. He urged students to be serious in their respective academic disciplines.

He also praised the effort of national establishments in supporting Kuwait University, Ministry of Education, Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science, Environment Protection Council, The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training and Kuwait Airways Corporation.

Dr Salem Al Mhana, from Kuwait University delivered a speech in which he welcomed students at the 14th summer training course and wished them success.

Mhana nominated to supervise the course this summer, pointed out that it will continue until July 5, 1989 and will include different specialties mainly applied medicine, biology, computer studies, physics, engineering and chemistry.



Ministerial visit

Minister of Electricity and Water, Dr Homoud Al Rqobah (right) on Sunday visited the ministry's stores in Sabhan. He inspected the spare parts stores and made sure that necessary spare parts for stations are available. He also visited the central workshops of the Ministry where he was received by its director Ahmad Al Murshed who explained the method of its work. The minister inspected some spare parts being locally manufactured.

Coast Guards equipped with high speed boats

ACTING Director of Kuwait's Coast Guards Major Sajed Al Buaijan was quoted as saying that the Ministry of Interior has provided his department with modern speed boats to enable it to perform its duty of protecting the country's coasts particularly from infiltrators. In an interview with Al Dakhliya magazine Buaijan said that the ministry had modernised Kuwait's marine outlets by establishing a floating island for the refuelling Coast Guards boats.

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah had inaugurated four floating islands which had been provided with the latest navigation and

radar technology. These islands constituted control bases for Kuwait's regional water outlets.

Speaking of the department's preparations, the official said that the Ministry of Interior is planning the construction of Coast Guards premises in the 1990s. The department is striving to develop its organisational structure to match the development in the security area.

The ministry has started preparing specialised units such as divers units which will be developed to constitute an integrated frogmen unit, a maintenance unit for the maintaining of the navigation

and radar equipments and a unit for protecting marine bases and outlets.

The Ministry is also striving to develop marine patrols to cover the next decade. In order to achieve this objective the ministry has recruited a choice of an international marine experts for building of modern boats to meet the next stage requirements, the official added.

He disclosed that the ministry in co-operation with the Ministry of Planning and the Ministry of Public Works is studying the possibility of appointing a marine consulting firm for establishing a base for Coast Guards near Al Fintas coast in addition

to constructing necessary berths and buildings in the Kuwaiti islands.

Meanwhile, Buaijan has called on citizens not to hesitate to contact the Coast Guards and sea patrols for any assistance. He also called on the citizens to abide by the instructions issued by the Ministry of Interior's public relations department or from the Coast Guards department particularly in respect to fishing regulations.

On the other hand the official had praised the co-operation among the GCC Coast Guards in general and Saudi Arabia in particular clarifying that the co-operation had foiled several attempts of infiltration and smuggling.

Illicit affair

By Salem Al Wawan

SECURITY men arrested a Sri Lankan maid in Jleeb Al Shiyukh for forging official documents.

The suspect confessed during questioning that she was pregnant and that the baby was the result of an illicit affair with one of the police station's police personnel.

A number of photos showing both the suspect and her lover were seized from the maid. The policeman in question was called in for questioning while the suspect was kept in detention.

Hashish trader

SECURITY men in the Capital Governorate arrested an Iraqi national alleged to be dealing in drugs. The suspect was caught in the act of selling hashish and one

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large piece was recovered from his person.

He identified his source as his brother-in-law, a Lebanese currently outside the country. The suspect and the contraband have been referred to the official investigative authorities.

Car thief caught

SECURITY men at the Capital Governorate have arrested a Kuwaiti citizen on the charge of committing more than 40 auto-thefts.

The suspect was arrested when a police patrol, suspecting the car was stolen, asked to see the car registration book, however the driver bolted and the police managed to chase and arrest him.

Investigations revealed that the car was stolen and carried false number plates.

Task force

CHIEF Security Officer at Jahra Governorate Col Ahmad Ibrahim Ismael has issued an order assigning a special task and search force at the governorate to chase wanted persons by implementation of court injunctions.

This measure is prompted by the need to facilitate interaction between the Jahra police stations and unify the security authorities in charge of bringing to trial civilians wanted on judicial charges.

18 accidents

A MAN died and two others were injured in 18 road accidents that took place in the country yesterday.

Four accidents occurred in Hawalli, 9 in Ahmadi and five in Jahra.

Container station established at port

Shuaiba industries expand services, cut costs

THE deputy director-general for administrative and financial affairs at the Public Administration of Shuaiba Industrial Area, Naser Al Ajel has said that the administration has established a separate section for training its working cadres.

He added that training Kuwaiti staff will help Kuwaitise the whole administration. Kuwaiti workers are being trained on their jobs from the first day of joining their place of work. They will obtain continuous training courses during their service. The administration has succeeded in offering training to about 68 per cent of Kuwaiti university degree holders during fiscal year 1988/1989. He added that 90 per cent of the training courses were held in Kuwait in co-operation with specialised training institutions, he said.

Ajel pointed out that the administration of Shuaiba Industrial Area has carried out some projects to expand the services of the area. These projects reduced the costs of transporting of raw materials that are imported from outside for local industries. The area also succeeded in reducing costs of transporting and exporting national products to international markets through the now expanded commercial port and oil ports. The area also established a container station to facilitate the loading and unloading at Shuaiba Port, he said.

Ajel pointed out that delay in transferring the administration of Shuaiba Industrial Area to a Public Authority for Industrial Areas has seriously hindered the development of the area. The lack of a

clear plan for industry is also a problem which affects services and sometimes the size of industrial utilities confuses work in the area, he added.

Ajel pointed out that public administration encouraged industrial projects and companies to settle in Shuaiba Industrial Area by offering industrial infrastructure and services. He added that Shuaiba Industrial Area is a model and organised area. It has suitable security, environmental and industrial services and utilities such as the land allotments for workshops and factories, roads, fences, water and electricity networks, fire fighting networks, communications network, postal services, police service, health service, banks and mosques.

Shuaiba Port is well known for its facilities for exporting and importing as well as customs services. The area offers industrial land allotments and other industrial services against token prices which are actually the cost price. The authority has a complete staff to make studies on the economic benefit of the industrial projects for investors and businessmen who want to settle in the area, he said.

Ajel added that the area is going on in its project to establish a station to treat the water used in factories in order to be used again for irrigation and afforestation projects. It prepares for the project to get rid of solid waste materials and specialise an area to bury waste of a dangerous nature.

Cashing in on summer rush

(Continued from Page 1)

move to hike fares was illegal.

"That proposal was categorically rejected and is not even under consideration," Bourouli added.

The government has since stepped in and frozen all fares until further notice.

Although certain discounts have been reduced, some travel agents are still selling discounted fares. Even KAC has lowered fares to certain destinations to remain competitive with airlines that have refused to reduce discounts.

Abdulla Rahim Al Awadi, regional manager of KAC, said that the move to reduce discounts on certain sectors was taken to bring a modicum of sanity to the market.

"Most airlines have come to realise that undercutting air fares has no end. If airlines want to look after their passengers, then the ideal is to offer better services, not less price."

"We have to arrest the decline in services and since operating costs are up, a nominal reduction in discounts hurts no one. A nominal increase in air fares will facilitate better on-board services and everybody around will be happy," Awadi said.

"The end of the day there will still be airlines and travel agents which will continue to undercut and eventually everybody stands to lose."

"We are trying to improve yield on all sectors from Kuwait and similar arrangements are being made in Dubai and Bahrain to improve income on the European, Far Eastern and West Asian sectors," Awadi said.

Abdulla Fakira, vice president of Alghanim Industries, the general sales agents for five major airlines, said that airlines in Kuwait have been trying to work out a consensus on the application of International Air Transport Association (IATA) fares for over two years now, but have so far failed to agree.

"In reality it is not going to happen" said Fakira, who represents Air India, British Airways, Gulf Air, Cathay Pacific and Qantas. "Kuwait cannot afford to price itself out of the market, especially since air fares in the other countries of the region are highly competitive."

Since January, airlines in Kuwait have gradually increased fares by a few dinars every month, but because of the impending rush season in June, when schools close for summer vacations, a hike of up to 20 per cent is listed.

These fares will revert back to discounted rates in September when the season is over, one travel agency source said.

Flights this summer are heavily booked, especially in the Far Eastern, West Asian and West European sectors, the same source added.

When the uproar on air fares was at its peak in 1988, Air India and British Airways bore the brunt, especially since Kuwait Airways temporarily suspended its eastern sector flights in the wake of the hijacking of a KAC Bangkok-Kuwait flight over the Gulf of Oman to Tehran, Larnaca and Algiers.

Other airlines flying to the east, but not part of the KAC, Air India, British Airways pool agreement of May 1988, enjoyed a veritable bonanza since passengers in pursuit of cheaper fares opted to fly offshore rather than fly direct at exorbitant rates.

This year, however, offshore booking is almost negligible, said an airline source who is not part of the agreement. However, additional flights might be operated to cope with the rush.

George Tharakan, assistant manager of Air India, said that although discounts have been reduced in 1989 from 1988 fares, the markup is nominal and can vary from one travel agent to another.

THESE fares are what a passenger would expect to pay from June 1, 1989, summer season for an economy class return excursion ticket. (All prices mentioned are in Kuwaiti dinars.)

Kuwait Airways		
Abu Dhabi	58.800	
Aden	125.400	
Algiers	235.200	
Amman	78.200	
Amsterdam	242.000	(197.000)
Athens	123.000	
Baghdad	48.000	
Bahrain	32.400	
Bangkok	205.000	
Barcelona	230.230	
Brussels	232.050	
Beirut	78.200	
Bremen	252.343	
Bombay	157.000	(148.000)
Cairo	97.200	
Casablanca	245.000	
Colombo	174.000	(202.000)
Dhaka	195.000	(204.000)
Doha	41.600	
Delhi	145.000	(133.000)
Frankfurt	242.000	(208.000)
Geneva	237.000	(244.000)
Hamburg	252.043	
Istanbul	152.200	
Islamabad	163.000	(156.000)
Karachi	123.000	(113.000)
Khartoum	156.900	
Larnaca	103.700	
Lahore	163.000	(156.000)
London	258.000	(235.000)
Madrid	252.000	(244.000)
Malaga	252.000	(244.000)
Manila	270.000	
Munich	232.050	
Muscat	83.500	
New York	356.000	(347.000)
Peshawar	163.000	(156.000)
Paris	242.000	(195.000)
Nice	225.000	(195.000)
Rome	207.000	(177.000)
Sanaa	116.600	
Tripoli	167.100	
Tunis	177.000	

Air Maroc		
Casablanca	299.000	

Swissair		
Geneva	237.000	(244.000)
Zurich	237.000	(244.000)

Turkish Airlines		
Istanbul	120.000	(130.000)

Alia (Jordan Airlines)		
Amman	73.000	
London	219.000	(204.000)
New York	270.000	(219.000)
Paris	206.000	(180.000)

Tharakan added that Air India has already implemented IATA fare levels in Dubai and Bahrain in its yield improvement programme, while still strictly applying the 20 kilogramme baggage limit. In Kuwait, Air India sometimes allows 30 kilogrammes free.

"Resistance is much higher against a price hike in Kuwait because of the strength of the Kuwaiti dinar against other regional currencies," Tharakan said.

"People in Kuwait find it harder to part with the dinar than people in other countries of the region," he added.

It has become obvious to the

travelling public that at peak season when there is more demand than available seats the airlines mark up their fares for seasonal profit.

The objections raised by the DGCA in 1988 was precisely because airlines raise fares during the rush season and reduce them again to tempt the public to travel when demand is low. One comprehensive fare structure throughout the year is what the DGCA and the travelling public are looking for, said another travel agency source.

It is callous to force a passenger to pay extra for a flight just because family obligations force him to travel in the peak summer season, the source added.

British Airways		
Delhi	145.000	(130.000)
London	258.000	(225.000)
Madras	220.000	
New York	288.000	(250.000)

Air India		
Bombay	157.000	(154.000)
Delhi	145.000	(134.000)
Trivandrum	227.000	(208.000)

Gulf Air		
Bahrain	32.400	
Bombay	142.000	(134.000)
Delhi	142.000	(134.000)
London	232.000	(171.000)
Manila	122.000	(109.000)

Air France		
Paris	242.000	(212.000)
Nice	237.000	(215.000)

Balkan Airlines		
Sofia	144.000	

Romanian Airlines		
Bucharest	147.000	

Singapore Airlines		
Singapore	220.000	(210.000)

Emirates		
Bombay	143.000	(128.000)
Delhi	133.000	(123.000)
Colombo	159.000	
Karachi	108.000	

Alitalia		
Milan	161.000	(198.000)
Rome	156.000	(172.000)

Bangladesh Biman		
Dhaka	186.000	

Cyprus Airways		
Larnaca	75.000	

Air Lanka		
Colombo	167.000	
Madras	184.000	(186.000)
Trivandrum	184.000	(186.000)

Egypt Air		
Cairo	90.000	
Alexandria	90.000	

KLM		
Amsterdam	242.000	(219.000)

Lufthansa		
Frankfurt	242.000	(244.000)

Malaysian Airlines		
Kuala Lumpur	229.000	

Olympic Airways		
Athens	123.000	(113.000)

Pakistan International		
Islamabad	166.000	(163.000)
Karachi	123.000	(119.000)
Lahore	166.000	(163.000)
Peshawar	166.000	(163.000)

- Prices correct at the time of going to press.
- Some airlines may switch back to June 88 fares before June 1, 1989.
- Prices in parentheses were applicable in June 88.

Solutions welcomed
Exam cheats prevalent world-wide

ASSISTANT Undersecretary for Planning and Development Affairs at Kuwait's Ministry of Education Dr Rasheed Al Hamad was quoted as saying that cheating at exams is prevailing throughout the world and not only in Kuwait.

In an interview with a local daily, Hamad said that the relevant studies on this issue are numerous, noting that the Ministry of Education will welcome any proposal aimed at surmounting this problem.

He denied that the volume of the curriculum is the reason, adding that any call for reduction in this respect will make the curriculum shallow and eventually will negatively affect the educational level of the students.

Meanwhile, the official disclosed that a special study on the cheating phenomenon was submitted to Arab Gulf Second Educational Conference held recently. The study has been debated by the conferees and some recommendations issued.

The conference had called for studying repeated cheating cases in order to define reasons, the officials said.

The conference also called for stringent application of penalties. The conference has requested the information-media to launch an awareness campaign to surmount the phenomenon through religious and cultural programmes to be undertaken by clerics and educationalists.

The study also has called for improving teachers' positions in order to overcome the situation prevailing among teachers due to economic problems.

Final exams of the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) will begin today and last until June 5. May 29 will be an off-day beside the two Fridays.

AIDS law in the offing

(Continued from Page 1)

"local transmission" of the disease.

"The deportation of non-Kuwaiti AIDS carriers depends on the merits of each case, taking into consideration the cause of infection, like blood transfusion," Dr Al Owaish explained.

The 28 cases that were identified were among people who contracted the disease while living overseas. Among them five were Kuwaitis and the rest, non-Kuwaitis.

An AIDS-free certificate is a must for all new immigrants to Kuwait. AIDS test for new entrants was introduced by Kuwait last year. The tests, done by the Border and Ports Health Authority, covers all infectious diseases, including AIDS, malaria, filaria and tuberculosis. Recently, tests for leprosy were discontinued.

In 1987, 180,000 people were tested; last year, nearly 160,000 tests were done. This year, so far, a total of 45,000 people have undergone.

To prevent transmission of the disease through blood transfusion, the Blood Bank in 1985 began testing all blood samples before giving them to a patient.

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Fathi Al-Khadra Est.



Film award

Abdul Sattar Naji (right) of Kuwait gives the Arab Critic Award to Tunisian director Nouri Bouzid for his film 'Slayah Min Dnahad' at the 42nd International Film Festival in Cannes on Sunday (Reuters wire-photo)

Taxi drivers call for union protection

Competition too stiff

TAXI drivers are very agitated these days for several reasons, primarily due to pick-up and private cars appropriating a large portion of the taxi passenger business, according to a source.

The source added that taxi drivers have demanded the establishment of a union to protect the rights of taxi drivers. If this was not forthcoming, the taxi drivers threatened to sell their taxis and drive pick-ups instead.

A taxi driver said: "We are living in a mess due to the law taking a vacation." These drivers pointed out that they had raised several reports explaining their sufferings to officials, but no action was taken. They called on the Minister of Commerce to intervene so as to avoid any complications or mishaps occurring.

On the other hand, a number of passengers said that taxis charge exorbitantly and added that they also wait to pick up several passengers along the way causing delays.

Interviews

A local daily conducted interviews with a number of taxi drivers to highlight the issue.

Lafi Abdullah Al Mtairi, a taxi driver said that people have a wrong idea of taxi prices. He added that their prices are invariably less than pick-ups and private cars.

Lafi called for establishing a taxi drivers union to protect their rights. He said that passengers tend to travel by other means of transport and the drivers often spend the whole day without making even KD1.

One of the passengers, Melhim Al Hashash said that he would

rather avoid taxis because they are problematic. He added taxi drivers refuse to carry one passenger only and that they are forced to wait until the taxi is full.

One lady passenger said that she prefers to use pick-ups because they are available everywhere. She added that it is rare to find a taxi while going to work. "I am forced to use pick-ups even though I prefer taxis because they are more reliable," she said.

Saqer Mnawer Al Rashidi, a Kuwaiti truck driver volunteered to take on the behalf of his colleagues on the problems they face with non-Kuwaiti transport officers directors. He said that Kuwaiti truck drivers are neglected by officials and that they are treated unfairly.

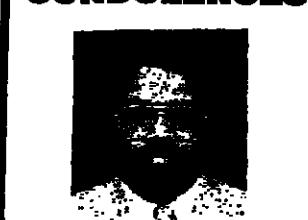
Censorship

He added that the problem is mainly caused by the absence of censorship of the Ministry of Commerce on the transportation offices.

He said that most transportation offices only employ expatriates and that they have financial motives without paying any attention to main objectives. He demanded protection for Kuwaiti drivers and called upon stricter censorship measures on transport offices. He expressed willingness to meet with any official to explain their problems and in order to reveal violations and the unjust treatment of Kuwaiti drivers.

He said that most people don't think that there are large number of Kuwaiti truck drivers. He pointed out that there are at least 200 Kuwaiti truckers working on the routes between Kuwait and other near by countries.

CONDOLANCES



The Management and Staff of KUWAIT ENGINEER'S OFFICE extend heartfelt condolences to the family of CHAMMALA YOHANNAN BABU on his sad and sudden demise

May his soul rest in peace

KEO

OBITUARY



Walter DeSouza

Expired on 22nd May '89.

Inserted by sorrowing wife Philomena, daughter Veronica, son Francis, son-in-law Robert, grandson Dominique and relatives.

Funeral rites to be notified.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

A CHILD educated only at school is an uneducated child — George Santayana, Spanish poet-philosopher (1863-1952).

Syrian shadow on Golan Heights

By Nicolas B. Tatro

IN a cove of trees overlooking the gentle rolling plain dividing the armies of Israel and Syria, a memorial has been fashioned from the rubble of war: artillery shells, hunks of rusting guns, food tins, a helmet. "Oh, brothers, the heroes of Golan with your unshaven faces, we salute you who stood against the enemy tanks, you who proved that the armour and man are both made of steel," reads a poem to 25 soldiers who died in some of the fiercest tank battles of the 1973 war.

Scores of makeshift war memorials along the roads and the abandoned, bullet-pocked Syrian towns and military installations give a ghost-like atmosphere to the 700-square-mile (1,800-square-kilometre) expanse of the Golan Heights, a vast slab of volcanic basalt stone scored by deep rocky ravines.

Israeli experts predict that if there is a new Arab-Israeli war, it will be fought on the Golan Heights, where Israeli and Syria are separated by a thin blue line of 1,400 peacekeepers of the United Nations Disengagement and Observer Force (UNDOF).

Israel seized the 45-by-16-mile (72-by-16-kilometre) plateau from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war. The government annexed the territory, along with its 12,000 Druze Arab inhabitants, in 1981. Since 1967, about 7,000 Israelis have settled there.

In two wars and countless skirmishes, 4,900 Syrians and 960 Israelis have died in the Golan Heights, which remains littered with shattered armour and mine fields marked off by yellow signs with red triangles. Amongst the relics of past wars, however, are freshly dug anti-tank ditches slicing across the grassy fields. There are also modern Army camps and hilltop lookouts bristling with radar and early-warning antennas.

"In the past year, there has been a tremendous amount of activity (by Israel) in putting up obstacles in the Golan Heights. I have no doubt (this) will have an important impact on Syrian decision-making concerning the possibility of a surprise attack," Brig. Gen. Yosef Eyal said in an interview with the weekly Army magazine *Banahane*.

Senior Israeli commanders and independent military analysts see Syria as posing the only palpable threat from the Arab camp, although their view is that the chances of war are minimal at present.

"The only concrete opposition at this point is Syria. The appearance of a wider coalition is not realistic at this stage," Maj. Gen. Ehud Barak, deputy chief of staff, said in a recent interview on Israel Radio.

"In our estimate, there is not a strong chance of a total war with Syria in the next year," Barak said.

However, Israeli officials repeatedly point to Syria's increasing military potential and its stated policy of achieving "strategic parity, or military equality, with Israel."

They note Syria now has chemical weapons, surface-to-surface missiles which can reach Tel Aviv and sophisticated artillery with firing computers. Its attempts to buy the Soviet SU-24 long-range bomber and develop an arms industry also are viewed with concern.

To counter the growing threat, Israel recently introduced a new tank, the Merkava Mark 3, which was developed to handle the tough Golan terrain. An Army film showed the tank flowing through a stone wall and leaping 30 feet (10 metres) from an embankment at full speed like a motorcycle.

An Israeli Army officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said:

"If the next war occurs, the feeling in the Israeli defence forces is that it will be on the Golan Heights. The main outlays in terms of money and training go to the Golan Heights and not to the 'infada,' or Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip."

Aharon Levran, a retired Israeli brigadier-general, said Syria is capable of deploying about two-thirds of its military force in the Golan Heights on short notice. This would amount to about six of its 10 divisions along with about 2,000 tanks and 1,500 artillery pieces.

New missiles, improved artillery and long-range bombers could bring the war into civilian areas for the first time if a conflict broke out.

"Israel has been spoiled by not feeling such strikes in previous wars. Now, there has been a strategic change, and the Syrians can now hit Israel in depth," Levran said.

Letters to the editor

Bonus for all employees

SIR: On the occasion of National Day this year the government of Kuwait had announced a grant of bonus to all military and other government civilian employees. The amount of this bonus was equivalent to one's children allowance plus social allowance. However, in this manner, all the civilian government employees in the Ministry of Defence did not benefit as some of them do not get the above mentioned allowances.

The one example of this category are the special contract employees. Special contract persons have been working for the last 12 years in the Ministry of Defence. They are drawing a limited consolidated monthly salary which in the past was almost equal to that of the military personnel. However it is now less than half of the consolidated salary of military personnel.

Special contract persons are colleagues of military personnel as well as other civilian government employees. They work shoulder to shoulder in times of peace or in an emergency in the technical fields of the Army, Navy and Air Force of the State of Kuwait.

I request the authorities to grant a bonus of some fixed amount to every government employee irrespective of the allowances, on future national occasions so that everyone is happy and not demoralised.

Iqbal Arif.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1455 — Battle of Saint Albans is fought in War of the Roses.
- 1568 — William of Orange defeats Spanish force at Ehilgerlee in Holland, marking start of revolt of the Netherlands.
- 1618 — Thirty-year war begins as Bohemian rebels triumph in Prague.
- 1701 — Captain William Kidd is hanged in London after being convicted of piracy and murder.
- 1853 — Constitution of Argentine Republic goes into effect.
- 1911 — Russia warns Turkey to withdraw its troops from Montenegro frontiers.
- 1926 — Lebanon is proclaimed a republic by France.
- 1939 — Britain's parliament approves plan for independent Palestine by 1949, which later is denounced by Jews in Palestine.
- 1949 — German Federal Republic comes into effect with capital at Bonn.
- 1969 — Death toll in Malaysia rioting exceeds 500, with 90 per cent of casualties Chinese.
- 1971 — Death toll is put at 1,000 in earthquake that destroys town of Bingol in eastern Turkey.
- 1977 — South Moluccan exiles in Netherlands hold 161 hostages in elementary school and hijack train in effort to get Dutch help in their fight for independence from Indonesia.
- 1983 — South African fighter planes rocket and strafe alleged guerrilla bases in Mozambique to retaliate for car-bomb attack near air force headquarters in Pretoria three days earlier.
- 1984 — Iranian and Iraqi forces clash along their battlefield amid expectations of a new initiative to arrest the escalating tension in the Gulf over the bombing of oil tankers.
- 1988 — Hungary's Communist Party outlines sweeping political and economic changes designed to salvage nation's faltering economy.

West Germany no starry-eyed victim of 'Gorbymania'

Newly-assertive foreign policy misunderstood, exaggerated

By Tom Heneghan



Dr Helmut Kohl, West German Chancellor

WEST Germany, whose newly-assertive foreign policy has opened a serious rift within NATO, approaches the alliance's 40th anniversary summit next weekend feeling deeply misunderstood.

As NATO's front-line state and the divided loser of the second world war, West Germany has always staunchly supported the alliance's strategy for defence against the Soviet bloc.

But a large majority of West Germans no longer believe in a Soviet threat, opinion surveys show. They see the cold war ending and want dialogue and disarmament to help break down the iron curtain separating them from fellow Germans and former neighbours in Eastern Europe.

For the past few weeks, though, Bonn's centrist coalition has seen its persistent call for East-West talks on reducing short-range nuclear forces (SNF) repeatedly slammed by the United States and Britain as a grave mistake.

The proposal, which most West Germans see as a reasonable response to Moscow's latest peace offers, ran into foreign criticism which many here thought was exaggerated and unrealistic.

The differences emerging in the debate were so strong that even a last-minute compromise before the May 29-30 NATO summit might not fully close the rift, Western diplomats say.

Perhaps the most difficult thing for Bonn to accept was that Washington and London wanted NATO first to install a new generation of SNF weapons in West Germany in the 1990s.

The macabre slogan "the shorter the range, the deadlier the Germans" echoed in discussions here as attention focussed on the weapons that would destroy east and West Germany if fired.

Bonn's unusual determination to fight for its plan triggered off a wave of commentaries abroad that conjured up a reunited Germany that few here think is possible.

These warnings, mostly in the US and British press, portrayed the country as a starry-eyed victim of 'Gorbymania', ready to break out of NATO for a neutral and reunited Germany it might win from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Struggling against these suspicions, Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher have been swearing their allegiance to NATO almost daily.

According to a defence ministry survey, three-quarters of those polled agreed that 'the communist threat is not so great any more' and 'the Soviet

Union is serious about détente'.

The descendants of what was once Europe's most militaristic nation are also strong believers in preserving the continent's post-war peace, the survey made last year showed.

Only 15 per cent of those surveyed would actively resist a foreign invasion, while about one third would only put up a weak defence and almost half would not fight back at all.

At the same time, the defence ministry survey says, 85 per cent of those polled wanted West Germany to stay in NATO, 85 per cent believed the West German Army helped ensure peace and 75 per cent thought US troops were necessary for peace here.

"There is a discrepancy between the long-lasting and firm commitment of the German public to the fundamental issues of defence and the more recent concerns and hopes of the Germans with regard to changes in East-West relations," said Angelika Volle of the German Society for Foreign Policy.

"The younger generation grew up being told by their parents, teachers and military occupiers to avoid war at all costs," she explained. "It's ingrained in them now."

"In addition, now even politicians who believe in keeping a deterrent force do not believe the Russians would actually wage a war. So why should anybody else?"

Commentaries in the West German media took on a more and more exasperated tone as it became clear 'the Anglo-Saxons' did not share the far-reaching conclusions Bonn has drawn from the changes Gorbachev has brought about.

Foreign commentaries about reunification of East and West Germany have also pointed up how differently Germans and outsiders view this nation's future.

While foreigners talk of reunification in terms of a neutral Germany or greater Germany that might menace the rest of Europe, most West Germans consider that unrealistic.

One option Genscher often alludes to in speeches sees West Germany helping East Germany by working to spread 'European values' of freedom and human rights across all of Europe.

"The fear of a switch in alliances is exaggerated," the Munich daily *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* wrote on Saturday.

"When it comes up, the German question will not be one of reunification, but one of self-determination for the people of East Germany."

(Reuter — Bonn)

Soviets offer visions of a non-nuclear Europe

Throwing fuel on the fire of smouldering NATO discord

By Bryan Brumley

EVERY decade or so the Western world frets over the perceived impending dissolution of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. But Mikhail S. Gorbachev was not around for those earlier episodes.

Like his predecessors, the Soviet leader has thrown fuel on the smouldering fire of NATO discord. Unlike his predecessors, Gorbachev has taken concrete steps toward what he tells the Europeans is his vision of "our common home," a continent undivided and secure.

The 16-nation alliance is moving toward its May 29 meetings in Brussels feeling the heat of disagreement between West Germany on the one hand and the United States and Britain on the other over negotiating with the Soviets on reductions or elimination of short-range nuclear weapons.

The issue may seem minor in the face

of such arms control accomplishments as the 1987 treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear missiles and progress in talks to radically cut the superpower strategic and conventional forces.

But there are fundamental disagreements among the Western allies and the current problem can be blamed in part — but only in part — on skillful exploitation of those differences by the Soviets.

Gorbachev has played the good guy, offering visions of a undivided Europe free of nuclear threat.

His foreign minister, Eduard A. Shevardnadze, has played the heavy, threatening to halt destruction of SS-23 missiles and thereby violate the intermediate-range nuclear force treaty that was the focal point of the US-Soviet summits of December 1987 and June 1988.

"Periodically we get hysterical," said Richard K. Betts, a NATO specialist at

the Brookings Institution in Washington. "We tend to forget that we have had these wrangles within the alliance in the past. What is different this time is Gorbachev. He is playing some cards that we have not faced on the other side of the table before."

Two other major factors are at work in the current NATO discord.

One is the style, or lack thereof, displayed by the administration of President George Bush in dealing with the Soviets, symbolized by White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater's description of Gorbachev as a "drugstore cowboy."

The other is more substantive: the fundamental difference between the United States and its European allies over NATO nuclear doctrine, specifically the so-called "flexible response" that envisions the first use of atomic weapons by the West to repel an invasion by superior Soviet conventional forces.

"The United States and Western Europe have different strategies," said Paul Warnke, who was arms control negotiator under former President Jimmy Carter. "The United States wants to keep the war in Europe. The Europeans want the United States and the Soviet Union to blow each other up" and keep the nuclear warheads from falling on Europe.

Gorbachev has capitalized in principle to Western demands to radically reduce conventional armies in Europe, agreeing to eliminate far more Warsaw Pact weapons and forces than he would require of NATO and thereby bringing the opposing alliances into rough numerical parity.

But many details remain to be negotiated, and until then, NATO must rely on flexible response.

The doctrine has made Western political elites secure because it deters Soviet aggression. But every time voters

in European democracies take a close look at it, they view the doctrine as fundamentally terrifying, said Betts, of the Brookings Institution.

On the other hand, Gorbachev and his aides "often make sweeping promises without conducting a policy review," said Dmitri Simes, an emigre Soviet analyst who works at the Carnegie Endowment for Peace in Washington.

For example, Simes said, "the Soviets announced a 14.2 per cent cut in the defense budget, but they do not yet know what the defense budget is."

"They announced a 500,000 cut in the size of the Soviet armed forces, and then sat back and watched the front pages. It was only under pressure from Congress, from the administration and from the Western press that they began to figure out what they wanted to cut," Simes told the Congressional Commission on Security and Co-operation in Europe (AP — Washington).

Students stirring again in Indonesia

By Kenneth L. Whiting

STUDENT demonstrations are stirring again after 10 years of relative quiet on Indonesian campuses.

The level of protest so far is mild as students from several schools test how far they will be allowed to go. But it is taken seriously by officials in a country with a history of student militancy that has affected the national destiny.

The current protests have focussed on a variety of social causes, including an 11-year-old ban on campus political activity, an increase in electricity rates and compensation for families forced to move by a dam project.

In 1945, a group of students kidnapped late President Sukarno and persuaded him to declare independence from the Dutch. In 1966, students were a powerful force in agitating for the removal of Sukarno in favour of his eventual successor, Gen. Suharto.

Students were a constant headache for authorities in the 1970s, helping spark the so-called Malari ("tragedy of Jan 15") riots in January 1974 during a visit by then-Japanese Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka.

Thousands of poor Jakartans joined a student demonstration, taking to the streets in a mass protest against unequal distribution of wealth. By the time order was restored, 13 people were dead and 770 arrested, including many students. The rioting, which also caused extensive property damage, was officially blamed on two banned political parties allegedly trying to overthrow the government.

Security was tightened, 11 newspapers were closed and a couple of senior generals lost their jobs. The government was disturbed by the uprising, however, and Suharto ordered the rich to stop flaunting their wealth.

Student dissent erupted again when Suharto was being re-elected unopposed for a third term in March 1978. Activists who accused Suharto and his family of corruption were jailed temporarily.

By then, the authorities had had enough. Political activity was banned under Campus Life Normalization (NKK) regulations designed to focus attention on studies and keep students off the streets as demonstrators.

The NKK abolished students councils in their previous form as pressure groups for political action. Students had to sign statements when they enrolled promising not to take part in political activity or criticise the government while on campus. Scores of expulsions enforced the disciplinary mood; activist professors also were ousted.

The NKK remains law and student demonstrations are still legally banned, but controls have been eased in recent months, clearly with official sanction, diplomatic observers say.

Students have taken to the streets in protests for a variety of causes, mostly linked to government policies. These include a 25 per cent increase in electricity charges, the limited compensation for families forced from their land in central Java by construction of a World Bank-financed dam and the original 1978 ban on political activity on campus.

Demonstrations by as many as 2,000 students at a time have been generally peaceful. Troops reportedly entered the campus of the Islamic University in Bandung, 180 kilometres (113 miles) southeast of Jakarta, and student leaders said 50 of their number were injured. The Army denied any violence.

Students at the Jakarta Teachers' Training College reacted with a demonstration in which they burned a papier-mache replica of a military boot.

Top officials' public reaction to the spreading demonstrations has been ambivalent. (AP — Jakarta)

Independence will bring gain, ruin for some

Namibians face boom or bust

By Gill Tudor

NAMIBIA'S coming independence means rich pickings in the capital but could spell ruin for some living in the vast northern bush.

Business is booming in Windhoek, the usually sleepy capital, as thousands of United Nations personnel, diplomats and foreign journalists pack the small town to overflow.

But as South African troops prepare to leave the territory under an international peace pact, taking their cash with them, the shops and stores of rural north Namibia face hard times.

"The economy as a whole is doing well but the gap that is going to be left (by the South Africans) will not nearly be filled by foreign spending, especially in the north," Deon Gous, Namibia's secretary of economic affairs, told Reuters.

Hotels and housing are booming in Windhoek as some 6,000 military personnel, police and administrators of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG), here to oversee Namibia's move to independence, scramble for a place to stay.

Restaurants, shops and car hire firms are also cashing in on the influx of diplomats and foreign journalists.

"We're soaking up all the accommodation," a hard-pressed UNTAG official said. "It's a classic case of market forces. Demand is there and it's pushing up the prices."

But the future seems grim for small, mainly black-run businesses in Namibia's northern

bush, particularly the hundreds of "cucu shops" that sell beer and general provisions in isolated villages and farm towns.

For years the South African Army has been the sole source of cash in the north, spending some \$6 million (R2.3 million) a month in the Ovambo region alone — an area where half Namibia's 1.3 million population live.

Many people fear that businesses in the north will go bust once their foreign customers disappear, with no industry or other cash employment to keep the money flowing.

"This will become a ghost town," said a resident in the garrison town of Rundu, near the Angolan border.

Gous predicted many black northerners would return to raising cattle or subsistence crops, or flock to towns further south in search of work.

While traders in Windhoek rake in the profits, life for the ordinary resident has become costly and plagued by shortages. Supplies of milk and other provisions are often tight.

"We're not UNTAG, you know," complained a woman in a coffee bar, staring in horror at a stiff bill for two cups of tea.

A year ago, a single room in Windhoek's main three-star hotel cost around 80 rand (\$30) a night. The hotel now charges 180 rand (\$70) and a receptionist said rates were set to rise again soon. A room in a comparable hotel run by the same group in Johannesburg is half the price.

Rents have skyrocketed too. Bennie Joseph, president of Namibia's Institute of Estate Agents, said Windhoek houses were now regularly let for between 3,500 and 5,000 rand (\$1,300 and 1,900) per month, with some touching 10,000 rand.

"These are rents this little town never thought it would see," he said. "It's making it very hard for the man in the street. It's terrible to see the waiting list for rentals."

Foreign diplomats are sniffing out good properties to house their embassies after independence, taking advantage of a highly preferential exchange rate for overseas investors.

Prices in the top bracket have doubled since January and embassies have bought between 30 and 40 houses in Windhoek at a cost of some 25 million rand (\$9.6 million), Joseph said.

Many of Namibia's 80,000 whites, who mostly live in Windhoek and a handful of other towns, expect the boom bubble to burst once the country becomes independent from Pretoria next year, after elections in November and the drafting of a new constitution.

"People mustn't think this is going to be heaven for ever," Joseph said. "Business in general will definitely take a nosedive when UNTAG leave. We won't have the sort of money there is now."

As well as cash, jobs will go. UNTAG is taking on some 800 Namibians as local translators, clerks and drivers, but the contracts are strictly short-term. (Reuter — Windhoek)

Ethiopian President looks secure

By David Rees

THE speedy collapse of a coup in Ethiopia has shown that President Mengistu Haile Mariam's grip on power is firmer than many estimated, despite hunger throughout the country and rebellion in the north.

It took just two days for Mengistu to crush a bid by some of his most senior officers to overthrow him.

Diplomats based in Addis Ababa told Reuters in Nairobi that these officers — including the armed forces chief of staff and the commander of the Army fighting secessionist rebels in the north — were unable to win the

support of enough soldiers to carry off the coup.

And, they said, that was a big surprise.

"For 24 hours in Addis Ababa, anything could have happened, there was a gaping breach but nobody stepped in," said one Western diplomat.

"There was no popular uprising. The Army did not follow the coup leaders," he said.

Ethiopia suffers persistent food shortages which leave many people badly malnourished, even when there is no outright famine.

"But sometimes I think we underestimate how conservative the Ethiopian people are, how much they are inclined to sup-

port the government in power — and how effective state security is, said one European ambassador based in Nairobi.

The coup was launched in Addis Ababa last Tuesday, just hours after Mengistu left for a state visit to East Berlin. Coup backers won control of Asmara, the capital of Eritrea province where secessionist guerrillas have been fighting for 28 years.

By Wednesday, the government put down the coup in Addis Ababa after heavy fighting on the outskirts of the capital, involving tank clashes between coup supporters and loyalists.

By Thursday evening the uprising in Asmara had been sup-

pressed and a key organiser, the commander of the government forces in Eritrea, was killed.

"Surprisingly, everything is back to normal," said one Western diplomat.

Diplomats said Mengistu defeated the Asmara rebels without moving in troops from outside Eritrea.

They said they had not expected the government troops, most of them teenage conscripts who tend to flee battlefields rather than fight, to back Mengistu.

A two-week ceasefire offered by their secessionist foes in the Eritrean People's Liberation front (EPLF) did not sway the soldiers. (Reuter)

ARAB TIMES Review



A military helicopter drops leaflets above Tiananmen Square which state that the student protesters should leave the square as soon as possible. (Reuter wirephoto)



A protester in Tiananmen Square uses binoculars as he peers through a bus window and surveys the scene yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



Pro-democracy students put on a huge banner that reads "Long live the people" on the Monument of People's Heroes on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Bliss or anarchy?

People power

BELING, May 22, (Agencies): Welcome to the Peoples Republic of Beijing, where the president is 21, buses run not cross-town but cross-street and the militia, in its first days of combat, defeated one of the world's biggest armies without firing a shot.

As open but largely peaceful revolt swept much of what China's leaders believed was their capital, its citizens, led by thousands of college students from all over the country, had virtually seceded and set up a loosely sovereign enclave.

It could have been high operatic comedy were it not for the likelihood of tragedy. Thousands of armour-backed troops surrounding the city were poised for a potentially bloody crackdown and even if they mutinied and retreated, full-scale anarchy loomed.

By today, two days after the Chinese government placed Beijing under martial law, most of the city had no law at all save legions of students who directed traffic, in concert with traffic policemen who were granted asylum and remained on the job.

Vast crowds in the city of 10 million poured into the streets, most to gawk at the prominent lectures by college students, literally middle-of-the-road, on their demands for democracy in a month of protests that sparked the unrest.

Cars and trucks yielded major thoroughfares to bicycle caravans and marches of students, while train fares were free and visas not required.

The republic had a government of sorts, complete with a bureaucracy that issued its own press cards to reporters. From its capital in Tiananmen Square, the undeclared president, student leader Wueraixi, ruled along with an undeclared junta.

The council huddled, naturally, on the top level of the Monument to the Peoples Heroes at the centre of the square, where tens of thousands of students leading the democracy movement were camped out after more than a week in a tent-strewn quarter settlement.

Actually, Wueraixi ruled as little of his republic as the president in Beirut does of Lebanon. But at 21, he was one of his administration's oldest officials and until recently a mere student at Beijing Normal University.

Defence forces formed of their own accord Friday night, when the Chinese government called out its 27th Army and tanks to restore order in the city, swept by mass demonstrations.

The ragtag army of workers, students and peasants, facing columns of troops and tanks, stopped them with barricades of public buses, dump trucks and their own bodies. By yesterday, after a few violent clashes, the soldiers pulled back at least temporarily.

But the citizens kept to the barricades. Accordion-joined double buses remained jacked across main roads at odd angles.

Without a constitution, the republic's laws were vague.

Parades and hitchhiking were encouraged. Students wearing white headbands manned traffic checkpoints, politely waving cars by.

But the students have displayed organisational skills which match those of the army ordered to confront them.

Student leaders have set up food and water distribution outlets, broadcast facilities, road-blocks, medical centres and a complicated security check system complete with special passes.

The remarkable organisation by the students, helped by Beijing citizens, has put them in effective control of the city centre in the most dramatic show of anti-government

defiance since the communists took power in 1949.

It has also kept alive students' morale and brought a method to the madness prevailing in the square, the symbolic heart of communist China which now looks like something midway between a refugee camp and a rubbish dump.

Chinese authorities have said anarchy has broken out in Tiananmen, but a Beijing resident thought otherwise. "Actually there is no chaos. There has been no violence and the students have been generally nice to the citizens," she said.

However, for all the organisation, the students appear to have neglected collecting piles of rubbish, mostly empty plastic and glass bottles and disused flags and poles.

The authorities say rubbish and poor sanitation, causing a stench hanging over the square, could spark a health epidemic.

"We know it is an eyesore, but rubbish collection is just not a priority for us right now," one student leader quipped.

Despite calls for press freedom, the independent student leaders council had already adopted the executive session, expelling reporters from its policy meetings.

But the raucous domestic bliss was overshadowed by foreign policy.

The die was cast when Wueraixi and his fellow leaders were invited on their first visit abroad last Thursday, when the republic consisted only of Tiananmen Square, and they crossed the border a few yards away to enter the Great Hall of the People.

The guests interrupted the older host, Chinese Premier Li Peng, who responded with an angry lecture. The talks broke down.

Two days later, China declared martial law. It appeared only a matter of time before it would be enforced.

Those who are on the front lines of the battle with students the People's Liberation Army is caught in the transition between acting as a revolutionary force and modern military. It has been thrust into a key role in the standoff between the government and pro-democracy students.

As the government-ordered suppression of a monthlong student revolt failed to materialise Saturday, yesterday and then today, the army appeared ill-prepared or reluctant to carry out its mission.

Young soldiers waiting in convoys on the outskirts of the capital took cigarettes and drinks from protesters and listened intently as students lectured them on their campaign for democratic reform.

Some flashed V-for-victory signs when their trucks retreated from the city.

It was harder to determine how senior military officers were reacting to the most serious challenge to the Communist Party's 40-year rule in China.

Senior leader Deng Xiaoping's one remaining official post is as head of the Central Military Commission. It is believed that Deng ordered the crackdown on the student movement.

The 84-year-old Deng is certain to have the support of other older officers who served in the old Red Army and continue to regard the People's Liberation Army as the last bastion of revolutionary integrity.

Less certain is the backing of younger officers, the army's new ranks of professionals who may share some of the students' concerns about the slow pace of political reform in China.

Deng has reduced the number of soldiers by about 1 million since 1985, when China fielded 4.2 million soldiers.



Student protesters keep a vigil in front of the Communist Party headquarters compound guarded by soldiers yesterday. The power structure of China is apparently being decided behind this gate. (Reuter wirephoto)



Tens of thousands of Chinese flock to the streets of south-western Chinese provincial capital of Kunming as part of the pro-democracy demonstrations sweep China. (Reuter wirephoto)

'I do'
BELING, May 22, (Reuters): Love blossomed amid the banners and barricades of central Beijing last night when two Chinese students took a break from pro-democracy protests to get married.

Li Lu and Zhao Ming braved rumours of an imminent army move to hold their wedding amid the 40,000 student demonstrators in Tiananmen Square.

With suspicious crimson ribbons pinned to their clothes, Li Lu and her husband stood on the Monument to the People's Heroes in the centre of the square and declared to the crowd's cheers: "We are now married."

The newly-weds, holding a hand-written marriage certificate, then led 100 classmates from Nanjing University in a triumph procession around the square, occupied for 10 days by tens of thousands of protesters.



Chinese soldiers carry a wounded comrade from hand-to-hand fighting.

Battle lines harden

(Continued from Page 1)

mass anti-government protests.

One diplomat quoted a well-placed Chinese source as saying Zhao returned to his office in the Zhongnanhai Compound today after taking "sick leave" for three days in protest against Li's use of the Army against the biggest anti-government protests since the 1949 revolution.

"Zhao is back in the saddle," the diplomat said.

Chinese journalists said battle lines between Zhao's reformist faction and Li's hardliners had hardened and there were signs that Li was losing his grip over the media.

There was no official comment. A party spokesman said to Reuters: "I cannot tell you whether Zhao Ziyang is or is not general secretary of the Communist Party."

In other cities protests continued over Li Peng's decision to impose martial law in parts of the capital and send in troops.

In Shanghai, the country's industrial hub where the unrest of recent weeks has inflicted growing economic losses, workers were involved in passive resistance to the authorities.

In Shenzhen, centre of a special economic zone built in the past decade on the border with Hong Kong to attract foreign investment and stimulate trade with and through the British colony, more than 100,000 protesters staged a huge peaceful pro-democracy demonstration today.

One policeman, on hand to keep order, climbed on to a platform and with clenched fist raised shouted to the crowd: "Down with Li Peng" and "I support the students."

Other police officers looked on as the crowd sang patriotic songs, heard speeches supporting the pro-democracy movement and chanted the now-familiar slogans of support for rebellious students and calling for the sacking of Li.

Across the border in capitalist Hong Kong, which is due to revert to Chinese rule in 1997, investors reacted to China's political crisis by frantically dumping stocks and switching their money into US dollars.

Waves of panic selling sent the Hong Kong stock market tumbling 10.8 per cent as it shed 339.06 points to end the day at 2,806.57 points, the greatest single day drop since the October 1987 market crash.

Dealers said attention remained fixed firmly on the Beijing standoff between student demonstrators and the Army with fears that bloodshed may occur mounting with every rumour sweeping through the market.

More than one million Hong Kong people took to the streets yesterday in an unprecedented display of support for the rebellious Beijing students, the biggest ever demonstration in Hong Kong's 148-year history.

In a blow to the authority of Li, more than 100 top military officers signed a letter today, opposing martial law in Beijing and saying the People's Liberation Army "will never shoot the people," sources said.

Members of the National People's Congress, China's legislature, also began gathering signatures needed to open a special session on the legality of martial law, sources said.

The state-run television news quoted an officer as saying he had been told to pull back his troops because of widespread popular opposition to martial law, ordered Saturday by Li.

Army trucks carrying troops remained parked at various locations in the capital's western outskirts, but the mood among the soldiers and the crowds surrounding them seemed relaxed. At one point, soldiers serenaded the crowd with a song about a military hero.

Protesting students in Tiananmen Square, meanwhile, savoured their latest victory today after Beijing citizens filled the street by the thousands before dawn, setting up road-blocks to protect them from the Army.

Students and citizens defiantly vowed to continue their struggle until Li and Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping resign.

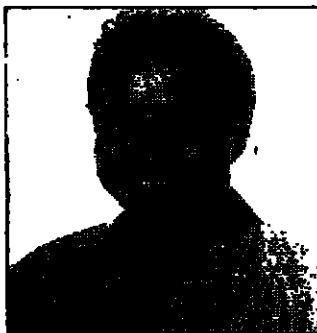
US President George Bush, saying "I do not want to see bloodshed" in China, urged authorities to go as far as possible with democratic reforms and advised demonstrators to "speak out for what you believe."

'We will never shoot the people'
— Top military officers to Li Peng

EVENTS



Lina Bakir



Mohammad Abuljebain



Nada Bakir



Qariba Louis

Jukebox 5 on May 23-24

Ken Winston plans bigger, better show

DIRECTOR Ken Winston, a well-known name in amateur theatrical circles, is all set for the opening of Jukebox 5, musical extravaganza that has won many followers over the years in Kuwait.

Jukebox 5 will be held on May 23 and May 24 at the Salmiya Cinema.

In 1984, when Ken laid the foundations of the musical, it became an instant hit. At that time, he was with the Kuwait Players. In the following years, 1985, 1986 and 1987, Ken produced and directed similar shows, but on a larger scale, holding them at the Salmiya Cinema. Last year, the Jukebox show was not presented.

This year, Ken has planned a bigger and a better show, he claims. Like previous shows, Jukebox 5 starts off with music from the Fifties, building up to present day music by well-known names.

"This format has proved very popular and we don't want to change it," he said.

Look-alikes and sing-alikes are introduced by Ken to add a touch of glamour. In previous shows, the Elvis Presley act was a crowd puller.

"The Elvis act has gone stale," said Ken but declined to give details of the new look-alikes he plans to introduce.

But rumour has it that "Michael Jackson" will come to the Kuwait stage. Nasch Hameed, who choreographs the show, is

apparently polishing up his Michael Jackson act and will appear in Jackson's role in "Smooth Criminal".

"There will be more dancing; we are planning a costume show with music and dancing," said Ken.

Promising new singers who will debut in Jukebox 5 include 11-year-old Nada Bakir, a student of the American School of Kuwait, Lina Bakir, Qariba Louis and Diana. Mohammad Abuljebain, a well-known name in amateur music circles, is taking part in Ken's show for the first time.

More than 12 singers will participate. Among the group of singers who return with Ken are Prince Jayaratnam, a Sri Lankan singer; Adolf, Nathalie Asphard and Carrie Dorsett.

Some of the songs that will be featured include songs by Boney M, songs by the Supremes, a Rolling Stones medley, Mick Jagger, Bobby Darin and others. Sing-along songs like Country Roads will also be presented.

Ken expects his musical to "be as good as the previous shows".

June Woolston and Phil Thomas are the musical directors. The band comprises Oliver Sequeira, Keith Price, Mohammad Kheiat, Christian Forhausen and others.

Ken Winston is producing and directing the show for the Al Hashem International Group in co-operation with Tiffany and Tomato. Tickets are now on sale. For reservations please see What's On. FA.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

9.00 Holy Quran
9.10 Sabah Al Khair
9.15 Falaona: cartoon serial (part 4)
9.45 Magazine D'Actualite
10.00 Yaseen Wa Bahiya: Arabic serial (part 11)
10.50 News Summary and Varieties
11.00 Al Aswar: local serial (part 11)
11.50 News Summary and Varieties
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran and Closedown

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 The World News via Satellite
4.45 Sherlock Holmes: cartoon serial
5.15 Tum Tac Wa El Atfal: Local children programme
5.30 Varieties
5.45 Nahno Asdeqa'ok: Presented by Wafa' Taha
6.00 Nadam: Historical serial
7.30 Fi Khidmat Al Jomhoor/Alta Wa Sehat, prepared by Dr Saleem Mohammed and Ghazi Al Khatat
8.10 Varieties
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Layali Al Hilmiya:

Daily Arabic serial (part 11)
10.30 Min Al Alef Ella Al Ya: Variety programme (part 3)
12.00 News Summary
12.05 The World News via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Pink Panther and Son: cartoon series
6.30 Captain Power: episode 7.

7.00 Brazil, Brazil: "After the Miracle" A look at Sao Paulo city
8.00 News in English
8.40 The Fourth Arm: British secret agents infiltrate France to destroy enemy posts.
9.30 Mutual of Omaha: "The New Zealand Deer Life."

10.00 Everything's Relative: "Forgotten But Not Gone."
10.30 Midnight Caller: "12 Gauge".
11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Iron Angels II
Starring: Alex Young, Mona Lee

Al Salmiya
Revenge of the Nerds II
Starring: Robert Carridine, Antony Edwards

Al Hamra
Lucas
Starring: Charlie Chan, Karen Hutton

Al Firdous
Sawal (Hindi)
Starring: Shashi Kapoor, Poonam Dhillon

Drive-In
Arco Fi Al Ya Naseeb (Arabic)
Starring: Samir Ghanim, Dalal Abdul Aziz

Fahsheel Open-Air
Andha Yudh (Hindi)

Fahsheel Open-Air
New Delhi

Fahsheel
The Beast Master

Jahra
Ek Mottho Bahaat

Granada
1921

Salamkhat
Combat Killer

Al Jleeb
Shatru

Almoud Drive-In
Arabic film

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Omar Pharmacy
Mubarak Al Kabir St.
Al Sharq Al Jadid Pharmacy
Al Safat Souq
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Walad Pharmacy
Tunis St.
Salmiya and Rasmakhiya
Al Fida Pharmacy
Al Khansa St.
Fahsheel and Almasal
Al Fajj Pharmacy
Makkah St.
Farwaniya
Al Yasum Pharmacy
Main St.
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Al Mafaf St.

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.20 am
Zuhr	11.45
Asr	3.20 pm
Maghreb	6.38
Isha	8.06

Cosmetologist to visit Kuwait

COUNTESS Suzanne de Paris, president and proprietor of Suzanne de Paris Products Institute de Beaute International Corp, New York, will be visiting Kuwait from May 24 to 26. She specialises in perfumes, cosmetics, skin-care and home beauty treatment products. Countess de Paris seeks agents and distributors for her specialty line in Kuwait. Those who are interested in arranging a meeting with her contact the Sheraton Hotel or the US Commercial Section at the American embassy — Tel: 2424151-9, ext 266.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum

OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum

SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 7.00 to 10.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts; ceramics carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Sudu House

SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon, 7 to 10 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts—rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Bangladesh Art Show

UPTO May 27. Bangladeshi artist Monirul Islam will show 45 paintings at the Kuwait National Museum. Islam's paintings revolve around the life of Bangladeshis. Landscapes are also on show. The exhibition will be open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4 to 7.30 pm. It has been organised by the Bangladesh Association.

FILMS

Children's film

May 24 (6 pm); May 25 (10.30 am); Heidi, a BBC production of one of the most popular children's stories, is set amidst the scenery of the Swiss Alps. It is about Heidi, a young orphan, who is taken to live with her grandfather in the mountains; unexpectedly, she has to leave her beloved mountains and live with a strange family in the city. This children's film will be shown at the British Council, Mansouriya. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 251512; 2533204.

MUSIC

Kuwait Singers

MAY 24/25 (8.00 pm): Kuwait Singers presents "Stage Struck" an evening show of songs from Broadway and the West End at Gulf English School, Salwa. For tickets and reservations contact 5317433/5384873. Tickets KD3.

Musical evening

JUNE 9, at 6 pm: The Indian Musical group "Octave" will present a grand musical evening at the Indian Arts Circle auditorium. Hindi, Bengali, Tamil and Malayalam songs will be staged by highly talented singers and musicians.

PLAYS

Kuwait Players

May 28 - June 1 (7.30 pm): Kuwait Players will present the last production of the season, a comedy entitled When Did You Last See Your Trousers, at the Universal American School, Salwa. Tickets — KD3. For reservations call 5637088; 5629875.

Konkani Drama

JUNE 15/16 (4.00 pm): Nashibachoo Divo Paloulo, the MAR production's Konkani drama, directed by Prem Kumar, will be staged at the Indian Arts Circle. For entry passes contact Raja Stores, tel: 2412970.

SOCIAL

Jukebox 5

MAY 23-25: The Sounds Great production of Jukebox 5, will be presented at the Salmiya Cinema at 8 pm and also at 5 pm on May 25. For reservations ring 5740256/7 (mornings and 4 to 7 pm) or 5718143 or 5731782. Tickets will be on sale at Salmiya Cinema Box Office.

TKMCE Alumni Association

MAY 24 at 7 pm: TKMCE Alumni Association, Kuwait Chapter is organising a lecture at the Indian Embassy hall. The lecture will be on "Multiple Stage Flash Distillation Plants" presented by A V Mohanan, the director of distillation plants projects of MEW. All are welcome.

German Week

ON the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Construction Day, the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, will hold week-long festivities: MAY 24-27: German Productions Exhibition; open from 9.30 am to 1 pm (for traders only). Open to the public from 5 to 9 pm, and 9 am to 9 pm on Friday.

MAY 24: Gala German Night; with entertainment by Joanna and her band; magic by Alexander; followed by German food buffet.

MAY 25 (3 pm): Finals of the Nation's Fun cup tennis tournament; followed by German food buffet. KD 3 per person.

MAY 26 (3-6 pm): International Children's Festival; magic, music, games and food; plus painting competition for children aged five and eight years.

All events will be held at the Regency Palace Hotel. For reservations call the Regency Palace, German booking office; German Embassy — 4814055; German School — 5640030; German Library, Holiday Inn Hotel, ext. 6096.

Indian Arts Circle

May 25: The IAC will hold a one-hour variety show, followed by a prize-distribution ceremony for the winners of the One-Act Play Competition, recently conducted by them. The names of the winners will be announced on May 25 at the ceremony, which will be followed by dinner. For reservations call 3904817; 2644863; 3903879; 3920165.

Mando Festival

MAY 26: For the first time in the history of Goans in Kuwait — Kuwait Konkani Kendr (KKK) is going to organise a Konkani Mando Festival at Hotel Meridien starting at 10.30 am. For details please contact 2644983.

Charity Dinner

MAY 29: A fund-raising dinner for refugees in Lebanon will be held for the British charity, MAP, at the Regency Palace Hotel. It has been organised by the Kuwaiti Women's Cultural Society. For reservations contact the hotel.

Seminar

MAY 30: A seminar on the refugee problems will be held by Dr Pauline Cutting and Dr Swae, who will be in Kuwait to raise funds for refugees in Lebanon, at the Kuwait Medical Society.

Sultan Gallery

UPTO May 31: Exhibition of painting of the papyrus by Egyptian artist Adam Henein. Opening hours 10 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm at the Thunayan Alghanim Building, Soor Street.

Kuwait-Welsh Society

MAY 31: The annual general meeting of the society will be held on Wednesday at 8 pm. For details call 391-2384; 372-9132; 371-3467; 562-5316.

Get-together

JUNE 16: The Go-Go Club will be having a get-together at the Ramada Al Salem Hotel from 11 am onwards with Stepping Stones and Symphony in attendance. For details contact Raju 2412970 and Tony 2631826 after 3.30 pm.

HOTELS

At the Holiday Inn:

SWIMMING lessons have commenced which is available for non-members.

Mondays (6 to 7 pm) separate ladies and men's fit classes with Steve and Chris Hill.

Saturdays and Wednesdays (5 to 6 pm) ladies aerobics and Saturdays (6 to 7 pm) mixed aerobics, with Touvi Pakasalo.

Saturdays and Tuesdays yoga (7 to 8 pm). Bowling alley available for company tournaments.

Sundays squash handicap tournament, all standards welcome. Tennis coaching available for non-members. Additional facilities available under the supervision of selective professionals: loss of weight, body building, massage (steam-oil-and-cream) for ladies and men. Contact the recreation department on 4742000 ext. 6788 or 6700.

At the Meridien

SPECIAL weekly promotion at La Brasserie restaurant. Asian corner every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday. A wide variety of Asian dishes, in addition to the regular buffet, will be featured. Tempura, fried noodles, etc. are prepared in front of the guests and served on the spot.

Mexican night every Sunday. Discover the delight of Mexican cuisine awaiting you in our Little Mexico.

Greek Taverna every Tuesday. Experience authentic Greek ambience and food with bouzouki music and a wide variety of mezzah.

Family day every Friday. Enjoy a Friday with your family. La Brasserie offers a wide array of Oriental favourites along with live music entertainment plus magician to thrill the little ones and many other games for the children.

SPORTS

Swimming and Keep Fit

SWIMMING lessons have commenced at the Holiday Inn which is available for non-members. Monday (6 to 7 pm) separate ladies and men's fit classes with Steve and Chris Hill.

Saturdays and Wednesdays (5 to 6 pm) ladies aerobics and Saturdays (6 to 7 pm) mixed aerobics, with Touvi Pakasalo.

Saturdays and Tuesdays Yoga (7 to 8 pm)

Bowling alley available for company tournaments.

Sundays squash handicap tournament, all standards welcome.

Tennis coaching available for non-members and additional facilities available under the supervision of selective professionals: loss of weight, body building, massage (steam - oil - and cream) for ladies and men.

Please contact the recreation department tel. 4742000 ext 6788 or 6700.



Pakistan's Ambassador to Kuwait Zahid Saeed hosted a reception on May 21 at his residence in honour of the visiting Minister of Religious Affairs, Khan Bahadur Khan. A large number of Kuwaiti officials and Pakistanis attended. Above: Zahid Saeed (third right) pictured with the Pakistani minister (fifth left).



The members of the Pakistan People's Party in Kuwait recently held a get-together in honour of Pakistan's Minister of Religious Affairs, Khan Bahadur Khan. The reception was attended by Pakistan's Ambassador to Kuwait Zahid Said. Picture shows (L-R) Punu Khan, Dr Riaz Ahmed Mehasar, Khan Bahadur Khan, Bashir Ahmed Bhopali, Rafique Ahmed Mirza and Zahid Said.

Al-Hashem Int. Group

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SOUNDS GREAT
presents
JUKEBOX 5

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Salmiyah Cinema
23rd, 24th May 1989
Nightly at 8 pm
and 25th May at 5 pm & 8 pm

Musical Direction: June Woolston & Phil Thomas

Choreography: Nasch Hameed

Produced by: Ken Winston

Tickets KD 7,000, 6,000 & 5,000 each can be

purchased from the Salmiyah Cinema Box Office

from 14th May 1989 from 6 to 9 pm

Reservations: from 9th May Tel: 571843 & 573182

or 5740256/7 (Mornings & from 4.30 to 7 pm)

ARAB TIMES

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Debt relief needed to help fight hunger

CAIRO, May 22, (Reuters): Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told an international food conference today that creditor nations should write off some Third World debt so the money could be used to eradicate hunger.

"I hope your conference will be able to hold contacts with the industrialised countries to give up a percentage of debts owed by Third World countries to finance food projects," Mubarak said in a statement read on his behalf to the World Food Council (WFC).

Mubarak said at least 512 million people had died of hunger so far this decade.

The WFC, a UN-affiliated body formed in 1974 to deal with political issues behind hunger, opened a four-day conference in Cairo today.

Egypt, the most populous Arab state, has foreign debts of more than \$43 billion and lacks credits to provide enough food for its 54 million people.

Mexican delegate Eduardo Resqueira, who is also WFC president, echoed Mubarak's words.

"Regarding debt, I am aware that a number of proposals are being considered to alleviate more realistically the unacceptable burden," he told the 36-member council.

He said developing countries could produce enough food for their people only if they received more support from donors, aid agencies and non-governmental organisations.

Council officials said the Cairo meeting aimed to take steps to implement recommendations on eradicating hunger which the WFC adopted at a conference in Cyprus last year.

Jordan's banned money-changers under study

AMMAN, May 22, (Reuters): A representative of Jordan's money-changers, closed in February by the government to curb speculation against the dinar, said today he hoped they would be allowed to reopen.

He said after meeting Central Bank Governor Mohammed Said Al Nabulsi that the government had promised to study the issue.

"Nabulsi told us: Be optimistic," said the representative, one of a five-man committee representing 70 money-changers. He asked not to be named.

Nabulsi, bank governor from 1973 to 1985, was reappointed on Saturday by the government of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Bin Shaker. Amman is considering liberal economic reforms following riots against price rises last month in which 11 people died.

Economists said the government might allow money-changers to reopen partly to stamp out a thriving black market, which they said was trading the dollar at 610 fils against the official rate of 540.

An official source said any decision to let money-changers reopen would need more than two months' study. Economists said they might operate under tougher restrictions than before to prevent capital flight.

Some banks have stopped selling dollars at the official rate, the economists said. Those that still were had added commissions to bring the effective rate up to the black market level.

"As far as we are concerned, the Central Bank has stopped supplying us with dollars and we are paying 600 fils to fetch each dollar from this black market," said a manager at a local bank.

"The Central Bank is turning a blind eye to our indirect violations," he added.

Plan to boost economic ties

BAGHDAD, May 22, (Reuters): Iraq and Saudi Arabia, which have two of the largest petrochemical plants in the Middle East, agreed today to boost economic and technical co-operation, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul-Rahim Al Chalabi and Saudi Trade Minister Suleiman Salim signed a protocol aimed at boosting trade and improving industrial and technical co-operation, particularly in petrochemicals, INA said.



Hang Seng index plunges

Traders at the Hong Kong Stock Exchange are busy during a session yesterday which saw the Hang Seng index plummet 339.06 points to close at 2806.57. The panic selling

resulted from continuing political turmoil in China where student pro-democracy demonstrations continued for the tenth day. (Reuters wirephoto)

Politicians indicted in share scandal

Fujinami, Ikeda accused of taking large amounts of money

TOKYO, May 22, (AP): Two Japanese politicians were indicted on corruption charges today, the first and probably the last members of parliament to be charged in the nation's worst post-war political scandal, Japanese media said.

The public broadcasting network NHK reported the indictments of Takao Fujinami, 56, chief Cabinet Secretary under former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Katsuya Ikeda, 52, formerly of the opposition Komeito (clean government) Party. Neither man was arrested.

Both politicians are accused of taking large amounts of money from the publishing and telecommunications company Recruit in exchange of favours.

Ikeda on national television categorically denied receiving money or shares in return for doing favours for Recruit.

"I will resolutely fight this unfair indictment," Ikeda said. "I declare that this is a fabrication of facts."

Today's indictments spelled

the virtual conclusion of the Recruit investigation by the Tokyo Prosecutor's Office, it was widely reported.

Local network TV Tokyo quoted deputy chief prosecutor Yusuke Yamaguchi as saying: "Although the investigation is still under way, the investigation is getting close to the final stage."

"I think we'll be able to shortly make the final announcement," Yamaguchi was quoted as saying.

The Tokyo Prosecutor's Office declined to comment to Reuters but the local media have speculated the investigation is likely to conclude by the end of May.

Under Japanese law, legislators cannot be jailed while parliament is in session without permission from the law-making body. If found guilty, the two could be sentenced to up to seven years in prison.

Nakasone, during whose administration the donations and stock transactions occurred, said in a statement that he "received the news of the charges

solemnly" and wished to apologise to the Japanese people.

Before today's action against the two politicians, all 14 others charged or arrested in the Recruit bribery and stock-profiteering scandal were bureaucrats and businessmen.

Last month, Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita said he would resign to take responsibility for the scandal, which has eroded public trust in politics. The ruling party still is searching for a successor, but the search is complicated by the scandal's links to most senior members of the party.

Prosecutors questioned Fujinami and Ikeda several times last week, and their homes and offices were searched on Thursday.

Opposition Japan Socialist Party secretary-general Tsuruo Yamaguchi expressed disappointment that the end of the probe was near. "Should this be the end to the investigation, I can't help but say that it will not live up to the people's expectations."

'1989 will be a crucial year'

Syria to boost oil output

NICOSIA, Cyprus, May 22, (AP): Oil producers outside the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries have reduced their output by about 400,000 barrels per day — well above the level set to help the cartel shore up prices, the weekly Middle East Economic Survey reported today.

MEES also said that Syrian oil production is expected to reach 400,000 barrels per day by the end of the year.

The weekly reported that Syrian Oil Minister Mtanios Habib said in an interview that Syrian production, currently at 350,000 barrels per day, would increase by 50,000 barrels by the

end of 1989. The increase will be from new production coming on stream from existing discoveries, the minister said, adding that "this will be a crucial year for exploration in Syria."

Last February, seven independent producers agreed to help OPEC try to stabilise the market by reducing output by 291,255 barrels per day.

The seven — Mexico, China, Oman, Egypt, Angola, Malaysia and the Soviet Union — will gauge production cutbacks for the rest of the year on what the OPEC ministers decide at their June conference.

Non-OPEC members said they are concerned about OPEC members producing above their individual quotas, MEES said. It did not name individual countries, but the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait have both been pushing for higher OPEC quotas.

The OPEC ministers are expected to raise the overall ceiling of 18.5 million barrels per day by one million to 1.5 million barrels per day.

The quota has helped restore prices to several dollars above the benchmark price of \$18 per barrel. It fell below \$10 per barrel at times before November's quota agreement.

ADB has record capital of \$22b

Wealth amid poverty

ABIDJAN, May 22, (Reuters): The African Development Bank (ADB), set up to help the world's poorest region, is 25 years old next week and under fire for dipping into record capital to help rich African states.

The Abidjan-based bank, founded in 1964 to meet development needs in post-colonial Africa, will hold its annual meeting in the Nigerian federal capital Abuja next week.

The bank generally gets high marks for its financial management skills and receives high credit-risk ratings. It currently has record capital of \$22 billion but some of its projects have drawn criticism.

In a continent where some of the world's poorest

nations are unable to feed their populations, the bank has in the past year lent millions of dollars to two of Africa's richest countries.

The bank approved an \$80-million loan to Ivory Coast, hit by waning cocoa prices, to fund plans to clear a huge tract of land for mechanised production of soy beans.

Zaire last year also received an ADB loan of \$100 million to buy petroleum at a time when the country was selling petrol at one of the lowest prices in the world.

"These projects were unfortunate," one non-African director said. "It is wrong that they should distract from the enormous progress made."

London dealers said the index dropped further in late trade after falls on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones industrial average stood 3.85 points lower at 2,497.25 at noon in New York.

In Washington, White House spokesman Roman Popadiuk said: "The dollar's recent rise is a matter of concern."

"If the dollar's recent rise against other major currencies is sustained for a prolonged period

Washington remains fully committed

US concerned at dollar's rise

WASHINGTON, May 22, (AP): The White House voiced concerns today over the recent rise in the US dollar, claiming that if not reversed it could "undermine international efforts to reduce global trade imbalances."

The statement appeared to be a call for greater international action to halt the dollar's rise, possibly including heavier intervention by the US Federal Reserve and other central banks to stabilise the currency.

A statement read by Deputy Press Secretary Roman Popadiuk said the climbing dollar "is a matter of concern" that "has also prompted questioning of the administration's commitment to the process of economic policy co-ordination" among the Group of Seven major industrial countries.

It was a reference to United States, Britain, Japan, France, West Germany, Italy and Canada, who have jointly vowed to take concerted efforts to stabilise currencies through a variety of steps, including direct intervention in exchange markets by central banks and adjustments in interest rates.

"The administration remains fully committed to this process. If the dollar's recent rise against other major currencies is sustained for a prolonged period or extended, it could undermine international efforts to reduce global trade imbalances," the White House statement said.

"Accordingly, we will continue our efforts to strengthen underlying policies that promote the adjustment of external imbalances as well as co-operation in exchange markets as agreed" by the seven nations, the statement said.

Although the statement appeared to represent a call by President George Bush's administration for the Federal Reserve and other central banks to do more to stabilise the dollar, Popadiuk refused to elaborate on it further, claiming it spoke for itself.

"The President and the Secretary of the Treasury remain the administration's sole spokesmen on the dollar and exchange rate policy," he said.

Dollar jumps, bank intervention in vain

Gold prices dip

LONDON, May 22, (Reuters): The dollar crossed the psychological two mark barrier today and defied more central bank attempts to bring it down to levels acceptable to worried Western governments.

The US currency leaped from a close in London on Friday of 1.9690 West German marks and 138.80 Japanese yen to end today around 2.0090 and 142.05 as investors scrambled to buy dollars.

Gold fell as operators switched from metal to dollars. Share prices in major European centres dipped because of fears that European authorities may have to raise key interest rates again to protect their beleaguered currencies.

The London Financial Times index of 100 shares closed at 2,169.0, a fall of 35.7 points, as traders sold for profit after a surge last week.

London dealers said the index dropped further in late trade after falls on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones industrial average stood 3.85 points lower at 2,497.25 at noon in New York.

In Washington, White House spokesman Roman Popadiuk said: "The dollar's recent rise is a matter of concern."

Earlier, in Hong Kong, gold fell \$6.01 to close at a bid of \$361.21.

Silver was quoted in London at a bid price of \$5.07 a troy ounce, down from Friday's \$5.35.

Share prices marked a moderate gain on the Tokyo Stock Exchange today, cautious trading caused by the sharp decline of the Japanese yen against the US dollar.

The key Nikkei average of 225 selected issues, which jumped 144.65 yen Friday, added another 65.90 yen to close at 34,067.86 yen.

Topix on the TSE index of all listed stocks in the major section rose 1.31 points to 2,519.46.

An estimated 550 million shares changed hands, compared with 750.6 million shares Friday. Losers outnumbered gainers 468-405 with 210 shares unchanged.

Share prices plunge

Investors urged to remain calm

HONG KONG, May 22, (AP): Share prices on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange plummeted today in reaction to political developments in China, as concern continued in this British colony over its future when it reverts to China in eight years.

The Hang Seng index of blue chips plunged 388.27 points to 2,838.73 in the first 15 minutes of trading before recovering slightly to close the morning session at 2,887.89.

On Friday, the last day of trading before the weekend holiday, the index fell 132.03 points in panic selling in the worst single-day plunge since the world-wide market collapse in October 1987.

Brokers say the morning activity had been expected because of the continued tense situation in China over student demonstrations for democratic reforms and the Chinese government's declaration of martial law Saturday.

Stock exchange executives urged investors to remain calm, but brokers said the tense situation in China would continue to govern the market's activities.

Turnover in the morning session totalled 1.787 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$229 million), compared to 2.466 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$316 million) during Friday's full-day session.

There are fears here that a failure of the student movement could affect Hong Kong's future and how China will govern the territory in 1997 when it returns to Chinese sovereignty.

Under a Sino-British agreement signed in 1984, Hong Kong will become a special administrative region of China under a "one country, two systems" formula. China has promised that for 50 years it will allow Hong Kong people to govern the territory and maintain the free-wheeling socioeconomic system that has made it an international financial centre.

But many of Hong Kong's 5.7 million residents remain skeptical over the Chinese promises and the viability of the "one country, two systems" concept that would allow a capitalistic enclave to exist under communism.

An estimated two-thirds of Hong Kong's population are refugees from China or their descendants who fled here for despair or political persecution on the Chinese mainland.

Plan to extend wage-price freeze

MEXICO CITY, May 22, (AP): President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has agreed to extend a wage-price control agreement beyond the expiration date of July 31, news reports said today.

Salinas said Friday that the agreement, credited with holding down inflation, must remain in force to ensure improved living standards for working-class people, Mexico City daily newspapers reported.

In the agreement, which took effect in February 1988, the government pledged to reduce spending, labour agreed to hold down wage demands and business agreed to freeze prices.

Consumer prices rose 51.7 per cent last year after rising 159.2 per cent in 1987, a record in Mexico.

Salinas did not specify how long the extension would last, but some business leaders said they thought it would remain in effect through the end of the year.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 22/05/89			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1	Carry Log	Algh Barwil	4843988
2	Fatima	ISA	2441860
3	Jiffar	KSA	4843150
4	Sea Glistar	M. Bahar	2433881
5	Ibn Qutaibah	KSA	4843150
6	Xin Yang	M. Bahar	2433881
8	Sham	ISA	2441860
9	General Lukban	Algh Barwil	4843988
15	Alhaha-D	Pearl	2417762
18	Mareike	Algh Barwil	4843988
19	Phuto	GH&Q	4347815
20	Sunday Cape	GH&Q	4347815

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
22/1	Norasia Arabia	Emad Shpg	4841873
22/5	Zarka	GH&Q	4347815
22/5	Jolly Turbese	GH&Q	4347815
22/5	Evermore Clear	ISA	2441860

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Ken Sky	MA Bahar	2433881
7	Ibn Al Nafes	UASC	4843150
9	Maersk Senang	Algh Barwil	4843988
12	Hotori	Algh Barwil	4843988
14	Western Jade	Algh Barwil	4843988

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
20/5	Tor Bay	KMMC	2419814
20/5	Glencages	Algh Barwil	4843988
21/5	Tackler Dosinia	Al Kamal	2425437
20-30/5	Al Majed	MA Bahar	2433881
24/5	Materlink	Rashed	2422026
24/5	Anafi	Barwil	4843988
25/5	KIA Waleed	UASC	4843150
29/5	Glory Sky	ISA	2441860

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14/0	13/7
47/7	47/5
20/5	20/4
22/3	22/2
20/2	12/2

/	NCR CORP	57/77	58/0	SHELL TRANS	39/2	40/0
/	NOR ENG EL	25/4	25/4	SHERN PLOW	68/4	68/0
/	NEW P LA RE	15/7	15/6	SHERRILL	20/0	28/4
/	NEMELL CO	38/3	38/3	SMITH INT	13/0	13/0
/	NEMONT HI	35/6	35/0	SNIP SEC	0	60/1
/	NENAL GLO	31/4	31/6	SNAP ON TL	40/0	39/7
/	NI MOING-10	0	58/4	SOURCE CAP	38/6	38/4
/	NI MORF-72	0	73/0	SOUTHERN	25/6	25/5
/	NICOLET IN	11/5	11/6	SPAIN FUND	11/3	11/3
/	NICOR-INC	34/5	34/5	SPEERY	9/7	9/6
/	NI INDS	26/5	26/4	SQUARE D	58/0	57/7
/	NIOBLE AFF	12/6	12/6	SQUIBB		
/	NORD RESOU	14/0	14/0	STONE CONT	29/2	28/7
/	NORTHROP	25/7	26/1	SUN CO	39/6	39/5
/	NORTON	50/5	50/4	SUNSTRAND	68/0	67/6
/	NOVO DRUG	32/0	32/0	SURSH INT	3/0	3/1
/	NUCOR CORP	53/2	53/2	SUN VAL	27/1	27/0
/	OAK INDS	1/2	1/2	SUNBELT	26/6	26/6
/	OCC PETRCP	28/6	28/6	SW GAS	18/2	18/2
/	OCEAN DRIL	18/5	18/7	SUN BELL	53/4	53/2
/	ODGEN CORP	31/0	30/6	TEK	71/0	70/0
/	OH ED CO	21/5	21/5	TEKTRONIX	23/6	23/7
/	OHIO MATT	0	25/1	TELETYPE	361/0	360/0
/	OLIN CORP	51/6	52/0	TELEPHONIC	23/6	23/6
/	OMNICARE	8/5	8/5	TELEX CORP	0	49/0
/	ORION PICT	20/0	20/0	YERADYNE	13/7	13/5
/	PAINE WEB	19/0	19/8	TESORO PET	10/2	10/2
/	PAN AM	4/4	4/4	TEX APER B	0	.06
/	PANKHANDLE	22/4	22/4	TEX EAS TR	49/6	49/6
/	PARKER DRI	7/0	7/0	TEXACO	54/4	54/4
/	PARKER HAM	28/4	28/3	TEXAS INST	33/2	33/0
/	PATCO INC	4/1	5/0	TEXAS INST	44/1	44/0
/	PULMAN CO	0	0	TEXTRON	27/3	27/3
/	PC INDS-96	0	89/4	THOMPS PC	0	22/3
/	PEGASUS	9/1	9/1	TIDEMATER	8/3	8/4
/	PENN CENTR	26/0	25/7	TIME INCOR	123/6	125/0
/	PENNZOIL	82/6	82/4	TIMBER	38/0	37/6
/	PEOPLES EN	22/3	22/1	TOWCHARK	39/4	39/3
/	PEPSICO	54/0	53/7	TOSCO	5/0	5/6
/	PFIZER	62/6	62/6	TOWNS & US	47/0	46/8
/	PHELPS DOW	60/3	60/1	TRANSAMER	35/1	35/0
/	PHILIP MOR	136/4	135/7	TRANSCO EN	41/6	40/4
/	PHILLIPS PE	23/1	23/1	TRANSCO EX	9/2	5/5
/	PIMACAL V	13/0	13/0	TRAVELLERS	40/0	40/1
/	PITN-BOWES	46/6	46/3	TRIMITY INT	37/2	37/4
/	PITTSO	21/2	20/0	TYCO CORP	31/7	31/6
/	POLAROID	38/7	39/6	TYCO LABS	41/4	41/3
/	PORTLIND GE	23/3	23/3	UAL CORP	128/1	127/7
/	PPG INDS	43/5	43/4	UTO BRAND	13/3	13/5
/	PRIME CON	15/2	15/2	UTO TECH	51/2	51/4
/	PRIME INNS	30/7	30/6	UNITWEY	61/6	62/4
/	PRIMERICA	21/5	21/2	UNION-CAMP	37/3	37/4
/	PROCT-GAMB	189/9	182/1	UNION-CAMP	28/0	27/7
/	PUYET SP-L	19/4	19/4	US SHOE	18/4	18/5
/	PULTE HOME	16/5	16/3	USK CO	34/5	34/4
/	QUAKER OAT	52/6	59/6	US WEST	69/3	68/7
/	QUAKER COR	16/7	16/7	US AIR CP	46/0	45/7
/	QUANTUM CH	48/7	48/6	VALERO EN	16/5	16/4
/	RAIS PURIN	87/4	87/2	VALLEY IND	2/0	1/7
/	RAMADA INN	12/0	12/0	VARCO INTL	4/4	4/4
/	RANGER OIL	5/5	5/5	VARIAN ASS	26/4	26/5
/	RAYCHEM	34/0	34/5	V PINT PET	55/7	55/6
/	RAYMARK	1/6	1/6	WATKINS OIL	7/1	7/2

7/3	REYNOLDS						
7/3	RLD CORP	9/4	9/5	WALGREEN	40/3	40/3	
7/6	ROCKWELL	22/1	22/1	HARMER CO	51/0	50/3	
7/6	ROHN RAS	34/3	34/4	HARMAN LAB	91/3	91/0	
7/4	ROWEN INDUS	32/1	32/0	WASTE MAN	51/6	51/4	
7/4	ROLLINS EN	11/6	11/7	WASH GAS L	25/3	25/3	
7/7	ROLLINS IN	19/3	19/2	WEST INTL	5/7	5/7	
7/7	RORER CORP	38/4	38/5	WEST CO	18/6	18/7	
7/5	ROMAN COMP	7/6	7/7	WESTINGHOE	63/5	62/7	
7/5	ROYL DUTCH	62/4	62/7	WILLIAMS C	35/2	35/3	
7/2	RSS, BERRIE	19/3	19/3	WILLIAMS E	10/2	10/3	
7/2	RYDER SYST	25/7	25/5	WINN-DIXIE	8/1	8/0	
7/7	RYLAND GRP	20/2	20/2	SPOLVER, J	13/1	13/1	
7/4	S DIEG G-E	39/2	39/2	MOULTON	52/6	52/2	
7/4	SALOMON	25/0	25/4	WORLD CORP	7/4	7/4	

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Australia to push for protected wilderness park

No plan to sign treaty

CANBERRA, Australia, May 22. (AP) Prime Minister Bob Hawke today said Australia will not sign a proposed international treaty to control mining in Antarctica, but will push for it to be declared a protected wilderness park.

He said Australia was determined to seek stronger protection for Antarctica than the proposed convention on the regulation of Antarctic mineral resource activities would have provided.

Among other things, that convention proposes limited mining, arguing that exploitation eventually must happen and therefore some sort of control is necessary.

"Although we recognise that (it) is very much better than no protective regime of any kind ... we believe that it is both desirable and possible to seek stronger protection for what remains the world's last great wilderness," Hawke said.

As one of the seven original claimant nations to the Antarctic, Australia has a power of veto over the convention, which must be signed by November this year. France is the only other claimant nation not to have signed.

Australia has land claims totalling 38 per cent of the continent, making it the largest claimant.

Hawke announced the cabinet decision jointly with Foreign Minister Gareth Evans and Environment Minister Graham Richardson.

In a statement, Hawke said his government will now push in world forums for a wilderness park to cover all the Antarctic and its surrounding oceans.

"The Australian government is dedicated to the comprehensive protection of the Antarctic environment and in that context our strong commitment is that no mining at all — including oil drilling — should take place in the around the continent," he said.

His proposal for a comprehensive environmental protection convention was first mooted at an Antarctic treaty consultative meeting earlier this month in Paris.

Move to produce cars in UK

Young pledges full support for Toyota venture

TOKYO, May 22. (UPI) British Trade Secretary Lord Young pledged today the British government will offer full support to Toyota Motor Corp. for its venture to produce cars in Britain, Toyota officials said.

Young, on a visit to Japan, made the remark in a meeting with Toyota executives, including chairman Eiichi Toyoda and president Shoichiro Toyoda, they said.

Young met the Toyota officials after inspecting the company's passenger car assembling plant at the headquarters of Japan's top automaker in Nagoya, central western Japan, this morning.

The British Secretary said the Toyota's venture will be welcomed as a British enterprise and expressed hope that the Japanese automaker will procure as much locally made parts and components as possible for its plant in Britain.

He added the British government will also welcome Japanese automotive companies setting up their facilities in Britain, the officials said.

Toyota announced a decision in April that it will invest about £700 million (about \$1.14 billion) to build car assembly facilities in Burnaston in England's Central Midlands to produce a 1.8-litre passenger car starting in late 1992.

The plant will produce 100,000 units a year in the first stage with the volume doubled to 200,000 units in 1995.

The venture will provide job opportunities for 1,700 workers initially. The work force will be increased to 3,000 when the plant goes into full production in 1995, the company said.

It will be Toyota's first wholly-owned subsidiary in Europe and the 100th Japanese enterprise to establish the foothold in Britain.

Malaysia emerges as Asia's newest tiger

New incentives offered for foreign investments

KUALA LUMPUR, May 22. (UPI) Wooing the world with rosy incentives and a high-tech haven, the once stagnant Malaysia is emerging as Asia's newest tiger in the battle for foreign funds.

Three years after a recession brought the nation close to its knees, officials now are wading through applications from investors anxious to locate in the long overlooked bastion of free trade zones likened to the suburbs of Silicon valley.

"Things have never looked so good," said Geh Sim-Hong, the beaming director-general of operations at the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (MIDA). The investment boom "has finally put us on the world map."

With the United States deciding in April that Malaysia can continue to enjoy the duty-free benefits from the general system of preferences (GSP), the relieved government of Prime Minister Mahatir Mohamed not only is offering unparalleled incentives but the lucrative privileges lost in January by South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore.

The four dubbed "tigers" for their aggressive economies and huge surpluses, were chopped from the GSP rolls by the Reagan administration, which deemed them ready to compete on their own in the major leagues of international trade.

After scrutinising allegations that Malaysia violated workers' rights, US trade representative Carla Hills rejected a petition from the AFL-CIO calling for the country's ouster from the GSP.

Reviewers were satisfied the government had taken steps to improve labour practices with in-house unions and noted that fringe benefits such as paid maternity leaves were sometimes better than those in the United States.

"We're very relieved," said Geh, noting that Malaysia exports \$634 million worth of goods under the programme launched in 1976 to bolster the development of Third World countries.

Commodity prices, which slumped for almost a decade, are booming. Stocks are up and reforms are expected to enhance the country's capital markets.

Manufacturing has usurped agriculture as the biggest economic sector, with Malaysia emerging as one of the world's largest semiconductor producers.

Capital also has flooded in like a monsoon to such labour-intensive industries as textiles, food, rubber and wood-based products. As the major supplier of latex, international alarm over AIDS has touched off a deluge of investment proposals from manufacturers of condoms and rubber gloves.

With the economy expanding at its fastest clip in a decade, a \$3.5 billion deficit in 1983 was transformed into a \$1.1 billion surplus for 1988.

MIDA received 944 investment applications in 1988, compared with 365 in 1986. Japan leads the field, followed by Taiwan and the United States.

The avalanche even has sparked a passion for Western fast foods, with 12 major chains including McDonald's, Kentucky Fried Chicken and Pizza Hut

vying for the taste buds of a population raised on spicy, local fare.

Planning a June debut is another American chain, White Castle, with its square, steam-cooked beef burgers. Marketing manager S.K. Wong said his menu, including chicken and fish dishes, "will inject a greater element of choice" into the already fierce competition.

Incentives
Economists credit the phenomenal jump in overseas interest to incentives allowing foreign investors to hold 100 per cent equity in companies, generous tax relief, free trade zones and low labour costs.

"We want to create a climate conducive to investment," said Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz. She recently announced that existing businesses which set up new entities will be entitled to tax benefits normally given to pioneer industries. While the lures technically expire on Dec 31, 1990, Rafidah stressed that Malaysia cannot "have a regressive policy."

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G-7 economic summit planned

Environmental crisis, debt to get priority

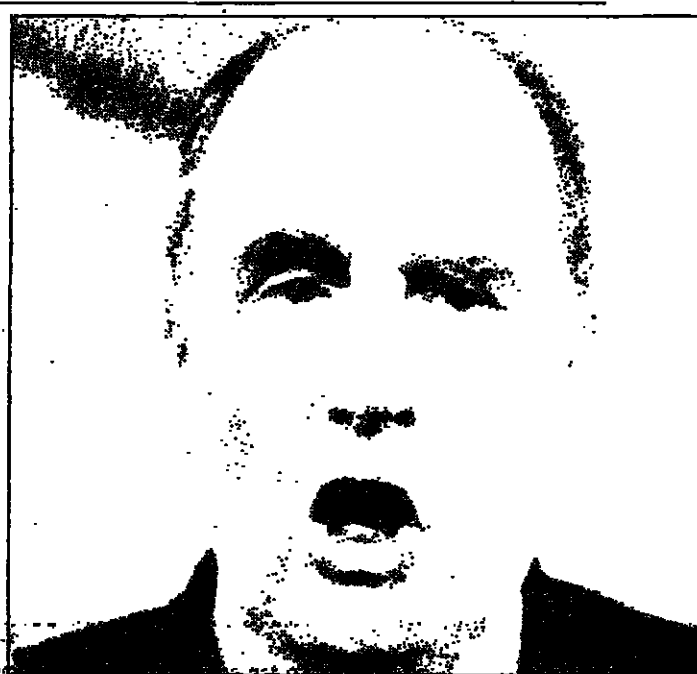
BOSTON, Mass., May 22. (Reuters) French President Francois Mitterrand pledged today to put the environmental crisis and Third World debt on top of the agenda at the Western powers economic summit he is hosting in July.

Winding up a North American tour, he said the two problems were the crucial tests for mankind at the end of the 20th century.

Leaders from the seven major industrial democracies had to show the imagination needed to tackle the challenges when they meet in Paris for the G-7 economic summit, Mitterrand told President Bush and thousands of graduating students at Boston University.

"There is only one humanity on earth. The death of the environment is our death — what are we if not nature itself," he said on the last day of a three-day visit to Canada and the United States.

The G-7 summit will give the subject priority for the first time. "The pollution of nature will soon spare no one. It forces us to find a rescue plan with extreme urgency," Mitterrand said. He recalled the French-organ-



President Mitterrand

ized meeting of 24 states in the Hague last March which urged the creation of a world environmental authority to protect the planet.

The proposal could be relaunched in Paris with the backing of the United States and Britain, which did not attend the meeting in the Dutch capital.

Mitterrand, speaking in French, said the other great challenge facing the wealthy was poverty in the Third World.

The political discussion involved how the inauguration date could be moved up without violating the constitution, and whether the new Congress would be sworn in early, too.

The talks are being held as Argentina's economy continues to slide. The austral fell from a rate of 105 per US dollar just before the election to a low of 210 before recovering to 180-1 on Saturday. Inflation is projected to top 50 per cent in May.

Workers' wages have shrunk by 30 per cent since January, "a contraction that in magnitude and speed has no precedents" in at least a decade, according to the Latin America Research Foundation.

Government officials acknowledged last week that they couldn't control the economy. Peronist leaders said they did not want to co-govern, but rather to implement their own programmes.

Last Thursday, the government raised utility and public transportation rates by 40 per cent.

"It would be foolish on my part to deny that a social outburst" is possible, said Carlos Alvarez, the government minister for the province of Buenos Aires.

Bank official quits

Argentina prepares new economic plan

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, May 22. (AP) President Raul Alfonsín agreed yesterday to move up the scheduled Dec 10 inauguration of President-elect Carlos Menem because of Argentina's economic crisis, but no date was set.

The two men could not agree upon a date despite all-day meetings each held with their respective aides.

Meanwhile, the Central Bank ordered all banks and foreign exchange houses closed today while the government prepared a new economic plan that will include exchange and price controls and export taxes.

The plan was worked out with economic advisers to Menem's Peronist Party. In a separate development, the vice-president of the Central Bank Roberto Eilbaum, and several top aides to Economy Minister Juan Carlos Pugliese, resigned.

"I have said and I repeat, I am not going to flee any responsibility," Alfonsín said yesterday in a statement read to reporters by Press Secretary Jose Ignacio Lopez.

"Nevertheless, I note that in the context of a severe economic crisis, the period of transition is too long," Alfonsín said after meeting with his cabinet.

In an interview published yesterday by the newspaper Clarin, Menem said he would take office early "if there is a generalised consensus of our entire community," including business, labour, political groups, the armed forces and the Roman Catholic church.

On May 14, Menem and the Peronist Party won the presidency and virtual control of both houses of Congress. The party already controlled 17 of Argentina's 22 provincial governorships.

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Investors dump stocks, move into US dollar

HONG KONG, May 22. (Reuters) Hong Kong investors reacted to China's political crisis today by frantically dumping stocks and switching their money into US dollars, financial analysts said.

Waves of panic selling sent the Hong Kong stock market tumbling 10.8 per cent as it shed 339.06 points to end the day at 2,806.57 points, the greatest single day drop since the October 1987 market crash.

The Hong Kong dollar, which dropped more than 100 points on Friday in anticipation of a crack-down in Beijing, opened weaker today as smaller investors clamoured to convert their savings into US dollars, foreign exchange dealers said.

But the local dollar later strengthened, dragged up by a stronger US dollar to which it is officially tied.

Gains
Dealers said the Hong Kong dollar's gains were less than those posted by the US dollar, which hit a three-year high, indicating currency switching by smaller investors.

"There's a feeling either cracked skulls or anarchy are going to emerge," said William Phillips, managing director of Baring Securities of Peking. "Neither is good for business."

Dealers said attention remained fixed firmly on the standoff between student demonstrators and the Army in Beijing with fears that bloodshed may occur mounting with every rumour sweeping through the market.

"They all proved false but no one could talk about anything else," said an American stockbroker.

GCC industry ministers to meet

RIYADH, May 22. (KUNA) The Gulf Cooperation Council industry ministers are due tomorrow to hold their 8th meeting at the GCC headquarters here.

GCC assistant chief for economic affairs Dr Abdullah Al Quizaz stated that the conferees will discuss recommendations passed by the GCC industry under-secretaries in their preparatory meeting here last week.

He said the meeting will also discuss suggestions concerning holding meetings between GCC and EEC industrial companies to initiate co-operation between the two sides.

The high ranking official indicated the conferees will examine a number of regulations and recommendations pertaining to domestic industry protection and industrial installations as well as execution of the GCC Supreme Council's decision regarding encouraging and co-ordinating establishment of industrial ventures.

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Rain too late to save crop in Bangladesh

Fuel shortages

TARAGANI, Bangladesh, May 22. (AP) Rain has ended a three-month drought but it came too late to save much of the rice that is the daily fare for most of this impoverished nation's 110 million people, farmers and officials said.

"Last week's rain should have come at least a month ago. Now there is water, but the damage is already done," said Abdul Jalil, a farmer who has to feed 24 people in his family.

Agriculture officials in Rangpur town, 40 kilometres (25 miles) north of Taraganj village, said the rain can save only 40 per cent of the rice crop. In some areas the loss is estimated at 80 per cent, the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Jalil planted rice on the hectare (two acres) he owns and was planning to sell the expected harvest of 10,400 kilograms (22,800 pounds).

"But this year I will have to buy rice from the market to feed my family," he said sitting on his haunches at the edge of his withered rice paddies.

Jalil, 40, said he was still trying to repay a 5,000-taka (\$156) bank loan taken to offset losses during last summer's floods. The annual per capita income in Bangladesh is \$160.

The deluge inundated four-fifths of Bangladesh, killing at least 1,400 people and destroying 2.5 million tons of rice and wheat.

Bangladesh, one of the poorest countries in the world, alternates between flood and drought. These, along with other natural disasters like tornadoes and cyclones, have crippled government efforts to uplift the economy.

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Unrest inflicts economic losses

We are angry, worker

SHANGHAI, May 22. (Reuters) Political unrest in Shanghai is inflicting growing economic losses and could even trigger strikes by angry workers, foreign diplomats and Chinese workers said today.

Workers from a number of factories in this east China city said they were not striking yet but there were work slowdowns in passive resistance to authorities.

"We are angry," said a worker from an affiliate of the huge Baoshan Steel Plant as he stood in front of communist party headquarters in a driving early morning rain.

"We are showing up for work but we don't do anything. Morale is very low."

China's factories are known for their overstaffing and inefficiency but workers said that productivity had fallen to a new low.

"We are registering our protest on the job," said a worker at a truck plant. "We spend the day talking about politics."

Workers said they were able to collect their basic pay just by showing up for work, and they were willing to forego bonuses tied to output.

Shanghai, China's biggest city with a population of 12 million, is also its industrial hub.

It provided one sixth of all national revenue last year and earned \$4.5 billion of foreign exchange from its exports — nearly 10 per cent of the national total.

The city contains China's largest port and one of its biggest steel mills and is also a major centre for production of textiles, garments and chemicals.

But it has been losing out under economic reforms which allowed rural areas to build their own factories, using raw materials which previously went to Shanghai.

This has forced the city to buy expensive materials on the free market or from abroad, a burden which has put many Shanghai factories in a bind.

The student protest campaign is focused on "freedom and democracy" rather than economic matters but it has struck a powerful chord with workers, who have joined their marches in large numbers.

Thousands of students and workers have taken to Shanghai's streets each day for nearly a week, with the ranks of labourers swelling in the early evening after the end of their shifts.

Buses parked in the City Centre yesterday were painted with slogans calling for a general strike.

Project Update

MAY 11

FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK

Thanks but it's far too long, confusing, and needs a lot of work.

Project Update

MAY 10

On schedule — as you can see!

FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK

Thanks!

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Africa: a continent of many nationalities

Africa is a continent of amazingly rich variety. Its landscape ranges from baking desert and ragged mountains to humid forests and rolling grasslands. It is rich in its cultural past—from the great civilizations that flourished in Egypt and along the Mediterranean coast to the powerful Hausa kingdoms along the Niger. Africa is rich in tradition and in arts (the Ivory head is a fine example of the Benin culture). The wildlife of Africa is exotically rich. And in its wealth of natural resources—in minerals and raw materials—Africa has the promise of a prosperous future.

AFRICA is the second largest continent after Asia. About two-fifths is desert, another two-fifths grassland, and a fifth forest. A hundred years ago, it was called the "Dark Continent," because so little was known about it.

About 70 per cent of Africa's 400 million inhabitants are negroes. The rest of the population is made up mainly of Arabs and Berbers, with some five million people of European descent. Over half the white people live in South Africa, and are descended from British and

Dutch settlers. The British settled many other parts of Africa, too. France and Belgium also colonised large areas of the continent.

By 1950, only four African countries were independent—Ethiopia, Liberia, Egypt and South Africa. The others were colonies or territories governed by the European powers. But by the mid-1970s, nearly every country in Africa had won its independence.

Civilization first spread to Africa about 7,000 years ago, from the Middle East. In about 3100 BC, a great civilization began to develop in Egypt, along the Nile valley.

The Mediterranean coast was settled in the 800s BC by the Carthagin-

ians. They eventually lost their empire to the Romans. It became, in 146 BC, the Roman province of Africa. The Arab conquest in the AD 600s united much of northern Africa.

Meanwhile, Bantu-speaking peoples had migrated southwards from what is now eastern Nigeria. They spread farming methods and the use of iron tools into Central and Southern Africa. By the Middle Ages, several negro empires, such as Ghana, Mali, and Songhai, flourished in Africa. European interest in the continent was centred largely on slave trade. Between 1450 and 1880, some 10 million Africans were captured and sold into bondage, mainly in the Americas.

It was not until the 1770s that people began to explore Africa in earnest, and it was another 100 years before Europeans began to colonise the continent. The European powers exploited the continent for its mineral wealth. But they also developed land, built roads and railways, and helped to eradicate disease and to educate the native



Primary school in Lusaka, Zambia. Education varies from country to country in Africa, and few children get secondary school education.

peoples.

Most of Africa is flat country, a plateau surrounded by narrow coastal plains. One of its main features is the Great Rift Valley, extending for 5,000 km parallel with the eastern coast. It contains the Red Sea and a number of lakes. The longest mountain ranges are the Atlas Mountains in the north-west and the Drakensberg range in the south. But the highest mountains (Kilimanjaro and Mt Kenya) are in the east, near the equator.

Deserts and grasslands each cover about two-fifths of the continent. The barren Sahara, with its shifting sands, dominates the north. The Namib and Kalahari deserts are largely dry regions in the south. Much of southern Africa is thick grassland. The forests are to be found in the mountainous part of

eastern Africa and on the plateau south of the River Zaire (Congo). The tropical rain forests lie in an area around the equator and on part of the Gulf of Guinea coast. These so-called 'jungles' are very dense, with matted undergrowth and huge trees that shut out the sun.

The chief African rivers are the Nile, Zaire, Niger, and Zambezi. The Nile, the world's longest river, empties into the Mediterranean. The prosperity of Egypt and the Sudan depends on irrigation from its waters. The Zaire has many tributaries and drains an enormous area in central Africa.

Africa's climate is warm, and regions near the equator are hot all year round. But there is either too much or too little rain. Areas on the Gulf of Guinea, in the west, receive as much as 3,800 mm of

rain a year, and there is also heavy tropical rain on the Zaire basin. On the other hand, little rain falls on the Sahara, and half the continent has less than 500 mm a year.

Most of Africa's people work on the land. Many farmers keep cattle and grow crops just to feed their families. Africa produces most of the world's palm oil and kernels, groundnuts (peanuts), cacao, and sisal. Important forest products include hardwood, such as mahogany and ebony.

Map Country Key Capital

- 13 Algeria; Algiers
- 4 Angola; Luanda
- 25 Benin; Cotonou
- 43 Botswana; Gaborone
- 36 Burundi; Bujumbura
- 27 Cameroon; Yaounde
- 28 Central African Rep.; Bangui
- 10 Chad; N'djamena
- 31 Congo; Brazzaville
- 6 Egypt; Cairo
- 29 Equatorial Guinea; Malabo
- 12 Ethiopia; Addis Ababa
- 30 Gabon; Libreville
- 16 Gambia; Banjul
- 23 Ghana; Accra
- 18 Guinea; Conakry
- 17 Guinea-Bissau; Bissau
- 21 Ivory Coast; Abidjan
- 34 Kenya; Nairobi
- 46 Lesotho; Maseru
- 20 Liberia; Monrovia
- 5 Libya; Tripoli
- 48 Madagascar; Tananarive
- 40 Malawi; Lilongwe
- 8 Mali; Bamako
- 7 Mauritania; Nouakchott

- 1 Morocco; Rabat
- 41 Mozambique; Maputo
- 42 Namibia; Windhoek
- 9 Niger; Niamey
- 26 Nigeria; Lagos
- 44 Zimbabwe; Harare
- 35 Rwanda; Kigali
- 3 Sahara Western (Sp.); El Aïm
- 15 Senegal; Dakar
- 19 Sierra Leone; Freetown
- 14 Somalia; Mogadishu
- 45 South Africa; Pretoria
- 11 Sudan; Khartoum
- 47 Swaziland; Mbabane
- 37 Tanzania; Dar es Salaam
- 24 Togo; Lome
- 2 Tunisia; Tunis
- 33 Uganda; Kampala
- 22 Burkina Faso; Ouagadougou

- 32 Zaire; Kinshasa
 - 39 Zambia; Lusaka
- CHANGE OF NAME**
Country Old name
Afars & Issas; French Somaliland
Benin; Dahomey
Botswana; Bechuanaland
Congo; Middle Congo
Equatorial Guinea; Spanish Guinea
Ethiopia; Abyssinia
Ghana; Gold Coast
Guinea-Bissau; Portuguese Guinea
Lesotho; Basutoland
Malawi; Nyasaland
Mali; French Sudan
Namibia; South-West Africa
Tanzania; Tanganyika
and Zanzibar
Zaire; Belgian Congo
Zambia; Northern Rhodesia



Just for laughs!

The aged, meek little clerk had asked for an interview with the manager. "Yes, what is it?" demanded the boss aggressively. "I'm very busy."

"I'm so sorry to interrupt you, sir," said the faithful employee, "but I wondered whether it would be possible for me to have tomorrow off."

"Have tomorrow off!" said the boss. "Good heavens, man, tomorrow is our busiest day of the week! You've had your holidays, why do you want tomorrow off?"

"Well, you see, sir," said the wretched clerk, "tomorrow is my Golden Wedding Anniversary, and my son has arranged a party for my wife and myself, and all our relatives and friends are coming, and—"

"Oh, very well," said the boss with very bad grace, "but don't think I'm going to put up with this every fifty years!"

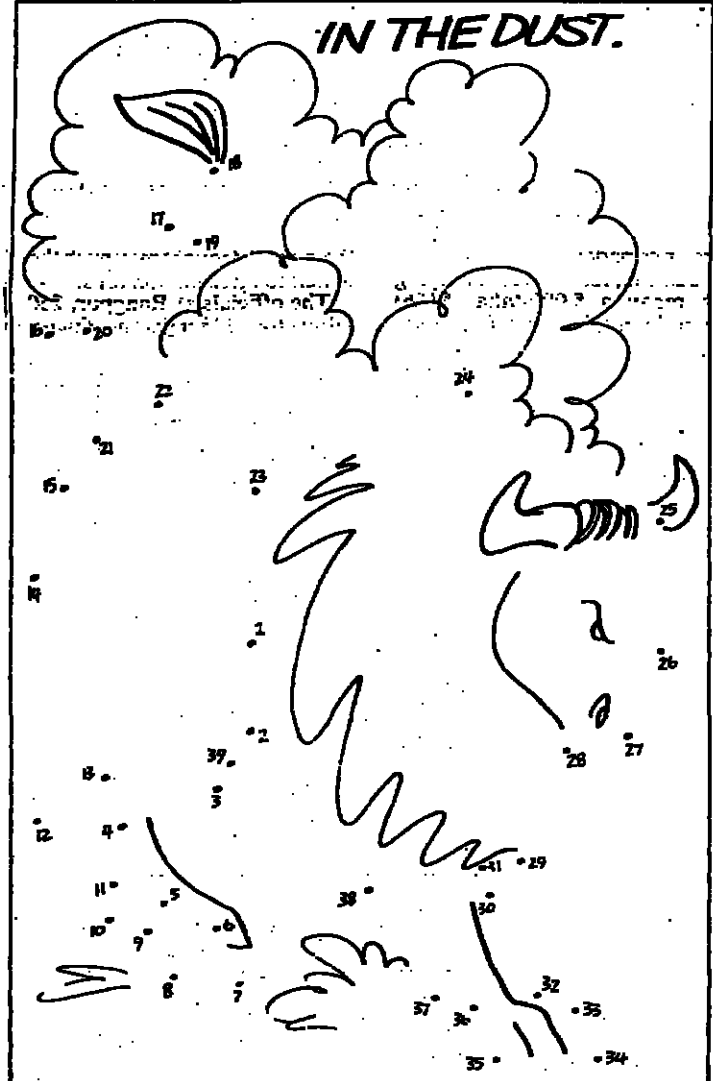
Harold's big sister was almost in tears over her cooking. "I don't know what to do," she moaned, looking at yet another unsuccessful batch of cakes. "What can I do to make my cakes light?"

"I tell you what, Sis," said Harold helpfully, "why not soak them in paraffin!"

Happy birthday



Andre Shirazi celebrates his birthday in the near future. Best wishes from dad, mum, Simone and relatives.



WHAT DO YOU CALL A GIRL....

WHO HAS A FROG ON HER HEAD? LILY

WHO FLOATS IN A MARTINI GLASS? OLIVE

WHO LIVES IN A CHURCH TOWER? BELLE

WHO GETS THROWN OVERBOARD? ANNETTE

WHO IS AFRAID OF TEXTILE FACTORIES? MILDRED

WHO IS STUCK DOWN A DRAIN? INGRID

WHO GIVES SHELTER TO MONKS? ABBY

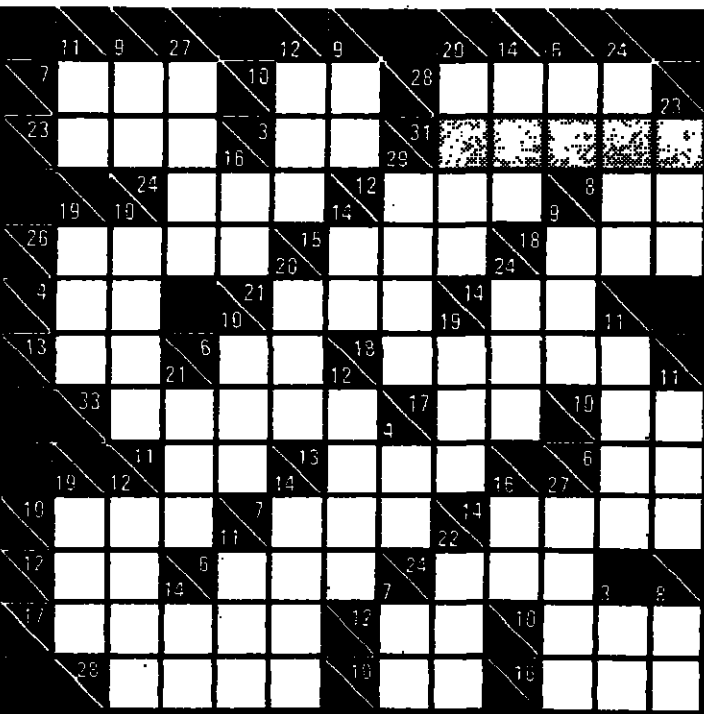
WHO IS INTO SALADS? LETTICE



Cross sums

IN Cross Sums puzzles, the numbers in the black squares refer to the sum of the digits which you are to fill into the empty squares. The number ABOVE the diagonal line refers to the empty squares directly to the RIGHT of that number. A number BELOW the diagonal line refers to the empty squares directly BELOW that number.

No zeros are used here, only the digits one through nine. An important point: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular 'digit' combination! We have shaded one area in the diagram.



Dear Junior readers,

Something we love to neglect during our summer holidays is our bedrooms.

Even though we usually have plenty of time to tidy, redecorate and thoroughly clean out our bedrooms, we love to ignore the dust, feathers, tissues and odd scraps of paper gathering under our beds. We pretend that our bookshelves are in tip-top condition with all our novels shelved with respect to size. We "forget" that our dolls or cars or jigsaws are carpeting the floors, or maybe we say "I'm going to continue playing with them tomorrow". Does any of this sound common? I'm sure to most of you it does. We soon get a very angry mummy demanding that immediate tidying

up and stating that the mess is unbelievable.

Well why don't you keep mummy's blood pressure regular this summer and try your best to keep your rooms as clean and tidy as possible.

If you throw all your tissues and papers in your small bedroom bin, if you put your book back in its destination on the shelves, if you put your toys in your toy box and under your bed, or in your cupboard straight after you finish playing with them your bedroom will stay considerably tidy and instead of a very angry mummy you will receive a bunch of hugs, cuddles and kisses.

What one do you prefer?

Mami

Word search

LORD OF THE RINGS

ARAGORN

BAGGINS
BALIN
BILBO
BLACK RIDERS
BOROMIR
BREE

DURIN
DWARFS

ELROND
ELVES

FELLOWSHIP (of the Ring)
FRDO

GANDALF
GOLDBERRY
GOLLUM
GONDOR
GREAT EAST ROAD

HOBBITS

J.R.R. TOLKIEN

LORD OF MORDOR
LOTHLORIAN

MAGIC
MERRY
MIDDLE EARTH
MIRKWOOD
MISTY MOUNTAINS
MORIA

ORCS

PIPPIN

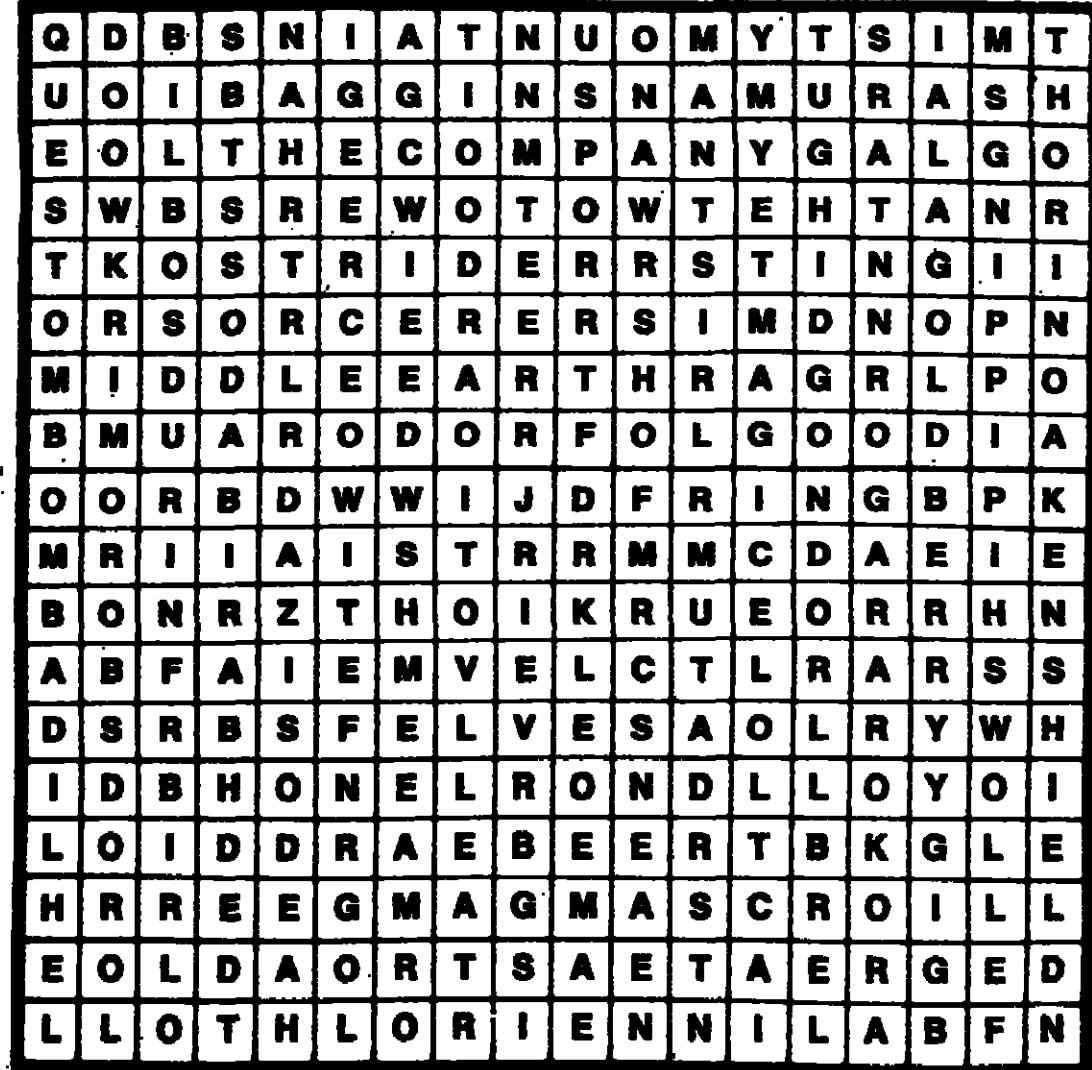
QUEST

RIVENDELL

SAM GAMGEE
SARUMAN
SORCERERS
STING
STRIDER

THE COMPANY
THE SHIRE
THE TWO TOWERS
THORIN OAKENSHIELD
TOM BOMBADIL
TREEBEARD

WIZARD



Clue: The Lady of Lorien (9 letters)

Big families in Third World

Family planning: out of women's hands

Absent fathers, sexual inequality and the need for big families make it harder for women to control how many children they have, says the 1989 State of World Population Report from the United Nations Population Fund. Two tales from Lesotho and Bangladesh show what happens when a father migrates, a son is born and a family is large.

Lesotho

Widows of migration

By Charlotte Bauer

FOR 12 years Mopota Maseuroane has lived alone with her three young children in a village a few kilometres outside Maseru, the capital of Lesotho.

Every day she cooks, cleans the house and then, when her 'woman's chores' are finished, she starts the 'man's work'.

Mopota, like thousands of Basutho women, is a grass widow. Her husband works hundreds of kilometres away in the South African goldmines and she has become sole head of her family.

For 12 years she has seen him once a year, when he comes home on leave. She never knows when he might arrive, but she always knows when he will go again.

"I feel very much alone. I dream that one day my husband will find a job in Lesotho so that he can help me bring up the children, share my fears and worries about them and do all the heavy jobs."

One of the poorest countries in the world, Lesotho has a population of 1.5 million people. A high infant mortality rate coupled with a short life-expectancy keeps its population almost stagnant.

Of this number there are nearly 130,000 men who work away in South African mines. This figure excludes migrant workers who leave to work in

factories or offices.

Consequently a large percentage of the country's women are in the same boat as Mopota. The main source of strength for such women is often the support they give and receive from each other. In Mopota's village, for example, they hold regular village meetings. These meetings were particularly important during the violent strike period of 1987 when there was no way of knowing whether your husband was alive until he came home on leave—or didn't.

Mopota shows her children pictures of their father and regales them with stories about him in an effort to keep his memory alive for them.

The loneliness—and the fear of infidelity—are, she says, one of the most painful emotional side-effects of her husband's absence. But there are other problems. Traditionally, a black woman in rural Lesotho defers absolutely to her husband's wishes. She may even see him only once a year, but this still holds true.

So even though she may be keeping goats and cattle (as well as a family) in a remote, virtually inaccessible mountain region she will have to consult him before making important decisions. If one of her children falls ill and needs urgent medical treatment the mother has to get permission from her husband before she sells a cow

to raise money. As most of these remote communities are either semi-illiterate or illiterate this can mean waiting until he next comes home on annual leave.

Often the wife will not even know where her husband is. South Africa itself seems very far away. She seldom knows which mine he is working in or even what town.

One woman did not realise that her husband had died in a car crash on his way back to Johannesburg after his annual leave until she heard the news two years later by way of an erratic social grapevine.

Over 40 per cent of such

'grass widows' see no money from their husbands. This is often because the women are living too far away from towns for the men to bother to send money home. To collect the money the women would have to travel to the capital which often involves a journey of several hours by car—and is virtually impossible on foot.

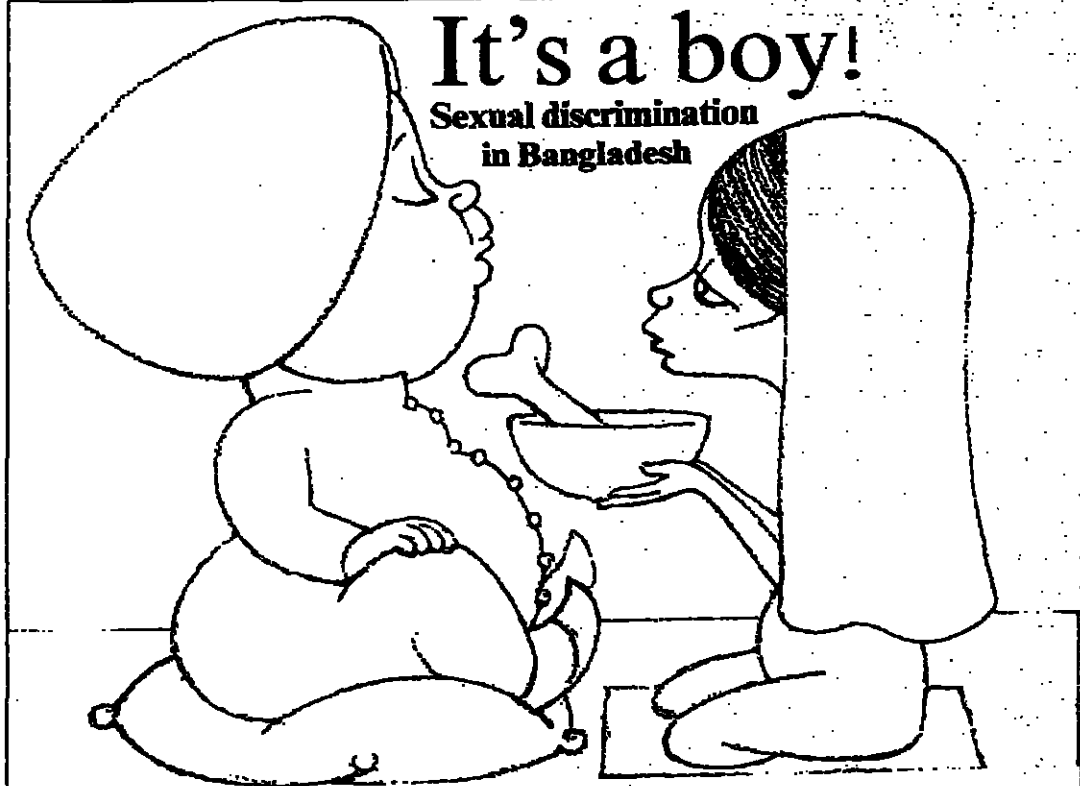
The widows' poverty is compounded by the number of months she has to feed. Rigid social codes governing fertility only make matters worse. A husband will come under great pressure from his parents and in-laws to impregnate his wife every time he comes home.

This means that the woman has the double burden of having no control over her own fertility but at the same time enjoying none of the advantages of having her man at home to help feed and bring up the children she is expected to bear. In some cases a man will even refuse to travel back to work until he is sure his wife is pregnant.

"This tradition," says Lesotho community worker Puseletso Salae, "is one of making as sure as possible a wife remains faithful. She will be too busy with the children, too tired with the pregnancy, too unattractive to other men."



With their men away—many peasant women are widows in all but name. I dream that my husband will come back and find a job here, says Lesotho mother, Mopota.



Discrimination against girls begins early. In Bangladesh, for example, boys get fed 16 per cent more than girls.

By Tahmina Ahmad

KULSUM was serving eggs to her small son Shoukat. Standing by her side were her two young daughters, crying. Kulsum shouted at them not to bother her while she was preparing her brother for school.

Five-year old Seema protested: "You give him egg every day, but never to us."

A sharp slap landed on Seema's right cheek: "How many times do I have to tell you that there are no eggs for you girls. Don't ask again."

The mother's explanation for her apparent favouritism was the conventional one. "Believe me," she said, "they are all my children and I love each one of them dearly. But I have no means of buying eggs for them all. The son has to be fed properly so that he grows up strong enough to bear the family responsibilities."

In strongly patriarchal societies, where women's unpaid work goes totally unrecognized and tradition does not allow them to do paid work outside the home, boys are seen as potential breadwinners—girls as bread-lovers.

Millions of women like Kulsum will every day find themselves discriminating against their own female children for reasons that are primarily economic. The result: in Bangladesh girls get fed 16 per cent less than their brothers. They get less nutritious food which often results in protein deficiency and stunted growth. And, not surprisingly in a country where 85 per cent of the population is suffering from some degree of malnutrition they grow to be small, slight women who give birth to vulnerable underweight babies more likely to die within their first year—especially if they are girls.

The feeding of sons is such a priority that it can

consume a major part of the family budget. For example, the Kumas family—consisting of grandparents, parents and children—spends 25 per cent of its monthly income on cow's milk for the baby grandson.

Even after childhood, the males in the family will continue to get better food. Adult son Ravi Kumar, for example, gets served fish, beef, and egg by his mother. The rest of the family have to make do with rice and lentils. "This is not discrimination but a way of life," says the mother. "My son gets preferential treatment for financial reasons but also because that is what I have learned. My mother used to do the same and I never regretted it."

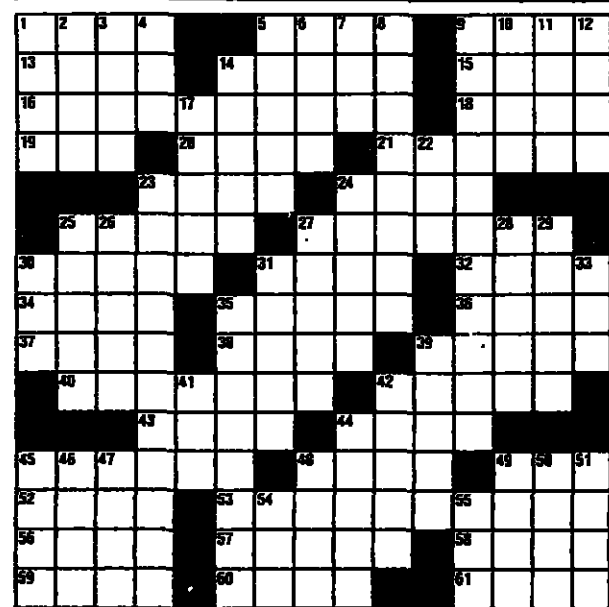
Land laws are often blamed for the particularly marked form of discrimination against girls that occurs in rural Bangladesh. The land laws dictate that family property can only remain intact if passed through the male line. A daughter's inheritance will automatically go to her husband when she marries. The family with many sons will therefore accumulate a lot of land—at the expense of the family with many daughters.

Sons are also seen as necessary to defend the family property from more powerful landowners who may try to extend the size of their holdings at the expense of peasant farmers.

The traditional dowry system further reinforces the need for sons. "Daughters are a liability," says Ratan Kumar. "For the past decade I have not lived a full life because I am saving for my four daughters who are all of marriageable age."

"When my first son was born we celebrated for days. But then my second, third, fourth and fifth children were all daughters. This has only added to the family burden and brought embarrassment to me."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- Country singer
 - McEntire
 - Hearty laugh
 - Food fish
 - Type of exam
 - Stablemates
 - Hipbones
 - Noted TV journalist
 - Rangy
 - Slippery one
 - Mine finds
 - Be kind
 - Head honcho
 - "Hiss" location
 - Singer Frankie
 - Mount Vernon's river
 - Like grumbly earth
 - Nota —
 - Chills
 - Daredevil
 - Knievel
 - African antelope
 - avis
 - Turn thumbs down
 - Shoestring
 - Inclined
 - Syncopated music
 - "Three — in the Fountain"
 - Latest thing
 - Scorch
 - Spicy sausage
 - Sweet wine
 - "You — There"
 - Oriental nursemaid
 - Pearl's "Won't you come home, —"
 - Columbus
 - caravel
 - Plunders
 - Hamlet was one
 - Judge
 - Linemen
- DOWN
- Catman
 - Part of HOMES
 - Formal dance
 - Sum total
 - The 19th president
 - God of war
 - Part of HRH
 - Like a mixed bag
 - Felsty
 - baseball manager
 - Jai —
 - Blow the whistle on
 - Art for art's —
 - code
 - Dreamy
 - Halloween exclamation
 - Eminent evangelist
 - Heavy weight: Fr.
 - Tennis' Rod
 - Sports center
 - United
 - Nation's mission
 - Encore
 - Tresses
 - School for future drs.
 - Point the finger at
 - Have a snack
 - Unmarried
 - Main artery
 - Cap for a highlander
 - Keeps in check
 - Swallows hastily
 - Sahara's soil
 - Friend, in France
 - Country road
 - Trudge
 - King of comedy
 - Philosopher
 - Descartes
 - Hurricane centers
 - Electrically charged atom
 - Bachelor's last words

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ARMS PISH TAPED
ROAM EDNA ALIVE
ALMA GOAL BEGIN
BEARMARKET RELY
TENSE ALTO
WATERS ISLE NAT
ABUSE KNEES HIL
DIRT MATES PORL
EDT OATHS ARLEN
DEL TREE SPEEDY
EATS GAPEES
HANG HORSESENSE
OPERA NASA REEL
RICED USER VERA
NAKED SSTS EDEN

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

UNHAND THAT LADY!

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

♠ 7 4
♥ 9 3
♦ 6 5
♣ A K J 8 5 4 2

WEST

♠ K
♥ Q 10 8 5 2
♦ K 8 7
♣ Q 10 9 3

EAST

♠ A Q 8 6 5
♥ J 6 4
♦ Q 10 9 4 3
♣ Void

SOUTH

♠ J 10 9 3 2
♥ A K 7
♦ A J 2
♣ 7 6

The bidding:
North East South West
3 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♣

We first came across this theme some 35 years ago in a par contest. We were impressed by it then, and still think it would fool most experts.

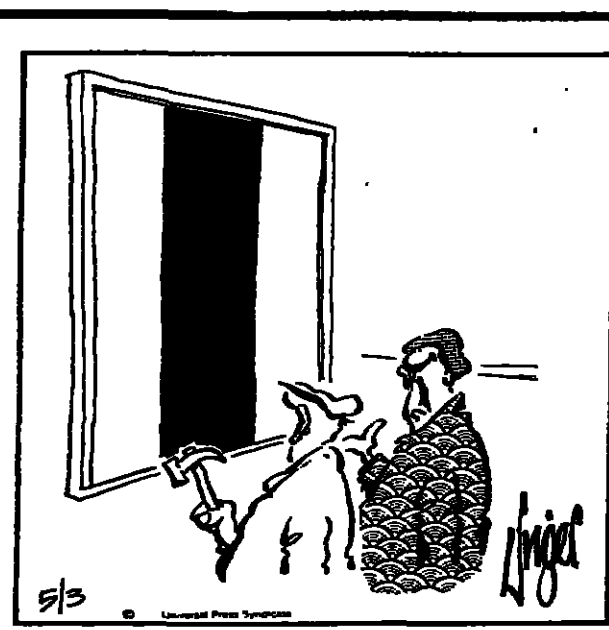
The bidding was unremarkable. South could not afford to probe for a spade fit with three spades because, should partner be forced to rebid four clubs, the most likely game of three no trump would have

gone by the boards.

West made a normal fourth-best lead and declarer saw that it was imperative to win the trick. Since he needed to set up dummy's clubs to make his contract, he led that suit at trick two. The queen appeared from West. A delighted declarer won with the king, only to find he had lost his contract when East showed out on this trick.

Since declarer needed only six club tricks to make his contract, he could have protected against a 4-0 break by allowing West to win the queen. However, give full marks to West for a brilliant falsecard.

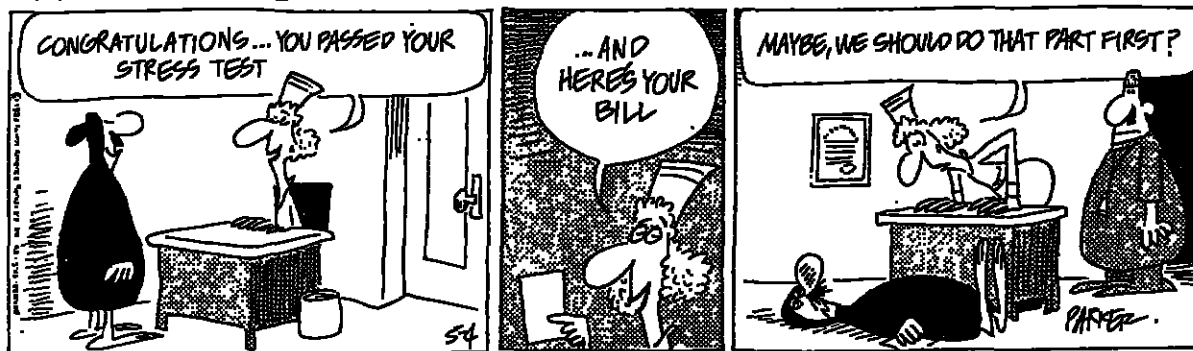
An almost equally intriguing position arises if West follows with any other card to the first club lead. Again, declarer should play low from dummy—he cannot even afford the finesse. If East follows to the club, the suit can be run since the break is no worse than 3-1 and the ace-king will draw the outstanding clubs. And if East shows out, when declarer gets back to hand he can take the marked finesse for West's queen (now you see why it's wrong to finesse the jack on the first lead of the suit) and still take six tricks in the suit.



"What are you, blind?
You hung it upside down!"

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

It is better to do things more slowly and surely than too quickly and having to do them again. You will have to deal with a rather irritable person and should keep calm whilst doing so. Do not allow your emotions to get out of hand. Be steadfast.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Do not get annoyed with your shortcomings, try to overcome them. You will be able to take advantage of a good opportunity. There is little reason for pessimism, but none for complacency. Be reliable.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Something you have been doing will begin to show results. You will have lots to be pleased, nothing to be smug about. Try not to become involved in anything that you are not too happy about. Be tactful.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Avoid spending money you expect to get until you have actually got it. The Moon's less favourable influence will make you more vulnerable, so beware. Do not do anything too out of the ordinary just now. Be generous.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

If you think you can do two things at a time you are wrong. Mercury's better influence will help you to make up your mind. Pay more attention to a personal matter. Be reasonable.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You should have more faith in yourself and confidence in others. You will need the courage of your convictions, nor must you abandon your principles. Those in love should not take one another for granted. Be cordial.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

Nothing will seem to go quite right today, just press on and do your best though. Avoid making a decision which it is possible to postpone. You should not neglect a personal matter, nor should you indulge an extravagant streak. Be reasonable.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Your patience and commonsense will stand you in good stead just now. You should make sure you do not act too many sweet things. Now is a good time to make a change you have been contemplating. Be sincere.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will be better able to see what lies behind appearances. You will have some success on the more practical level. Avoid jumping to conclusions and do not act on the spur of the moment. Be frugal.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

The better influence of Uranus and Saturn will help you to avoid a pitfall. You should not try to use force where persuasion has failed. Do not allow yourself to be taken in by 'sales talk'. Be cordial.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Make sure you do not gamble with more than you can easily afford to lose. It will take longer to learn something you would like to be able to do than you thought at first. Never mind, persevere and in the end you will succeed. Be sensible.



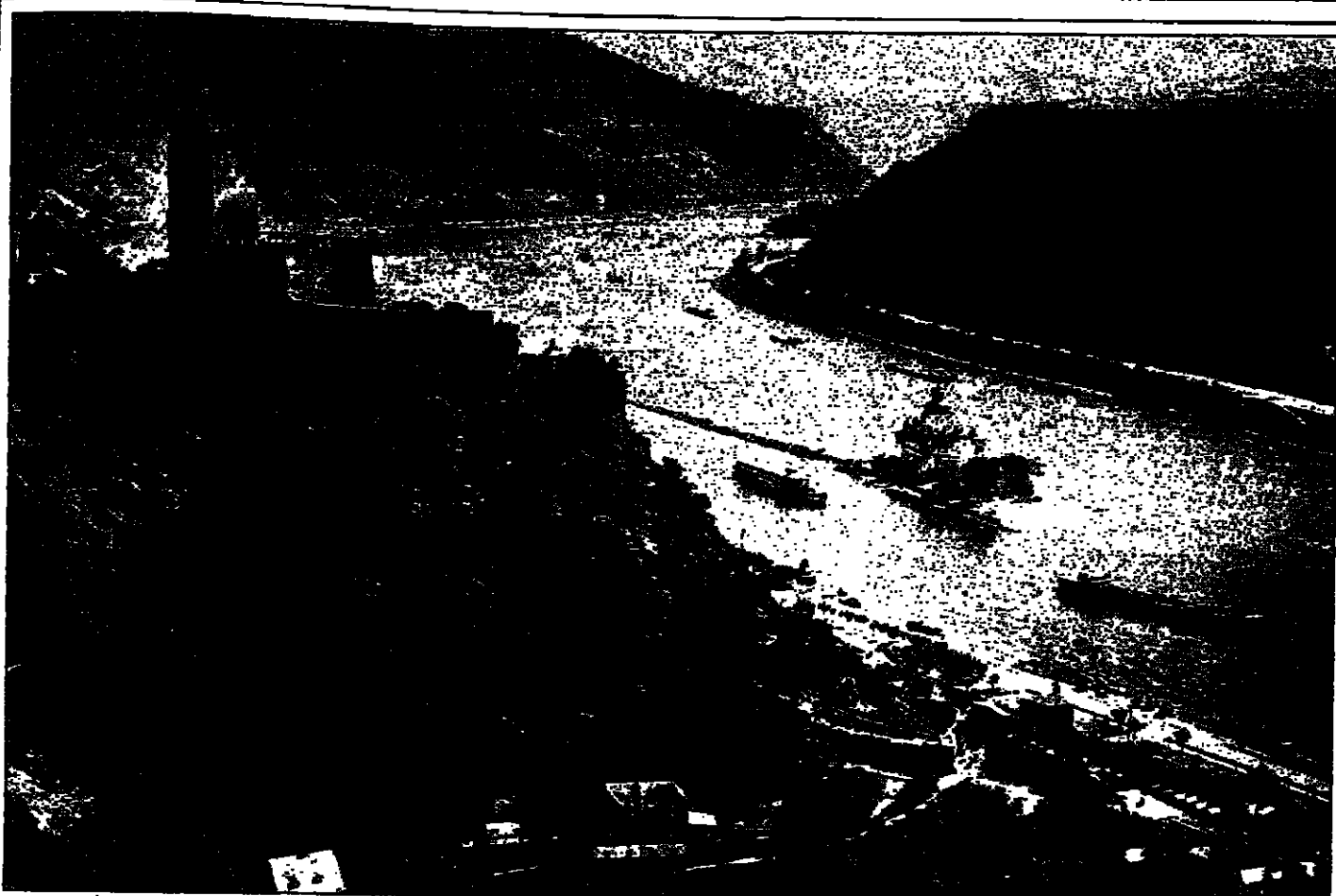
Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You should try not to get into bad habits and to change those you may have got into. Once you have made up your mind do not waver, get on with it. Avoid being too critical either of others or yourself. Your lucky numbers are 32 and 48. Be truthful.

CONSTITUTION DAY

40 years of the Federal Republic of Germany

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT



Castle Gutenfels on the River Rhine, Federal Republic of Germany.

West Germany celebrates Constitution Day

Forty years of democracy

By Ludger Kuhnhardt

BONN: State birthdays are shrouded in a mythical aura. Why is something celebrated on a particular date? Can a state have a birthday at all and observe it as a collective event, regardless of the fact that several generations live under its roof? What conclusions can be drawn from a state commemorative anniversary? These are questions confronting the Federal Republic of Germany in the year 1989.

May 23, 1989 is the 40th anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law (Grundgesetz), the most liberal constitution in the history of the German people. In point of fact, it is not a constitution; it is a provisional basic law, a "Grundgesetz", which has not lost sight of its objective, the achievement of the unity of the German people in free self-determination.

The 40th anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law is closely linked with Sept 1, 1989, the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of World War II. On that day, in 1939, German Reich troops invaded Poland; Hitler's war had begun and plunged the peoples of Europe into unspeakable suffering and grief. Shortly before, on Aug 23, 1939, the German-Soviet non-aggression pact had been signed, the consequence of which led to the partition of Poland by Hitler and Stalin.

In the western part of Germany, the Federal Republic of Germany oriented on the mandate of a constitutional democracy, was the answer to dictatorship and crime, holocaust and the division of Germany, the expulsion of 12 million East Germans and the destruction of the country. Freedom and human rights internally, a peaceful foreign policy and co-operation with the other peoples of Europe — these are the basic decisions the West Germans took — and to which they still unwaveringly committed — in 1949.

The military and political alliance with the United States of America, over and above this, has been described as the Federal Republic of Germany's "second Basic Law".

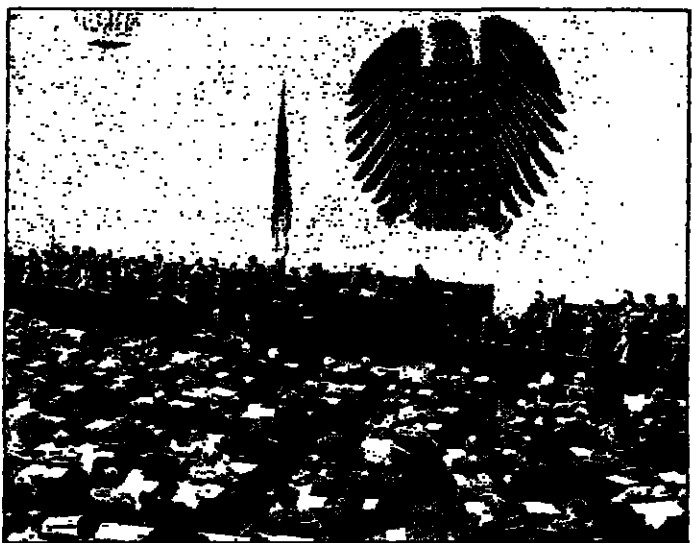
The 40-year-old history of the Federal Republic of



Dr. Richard Freiherr von Weizsäcker, President



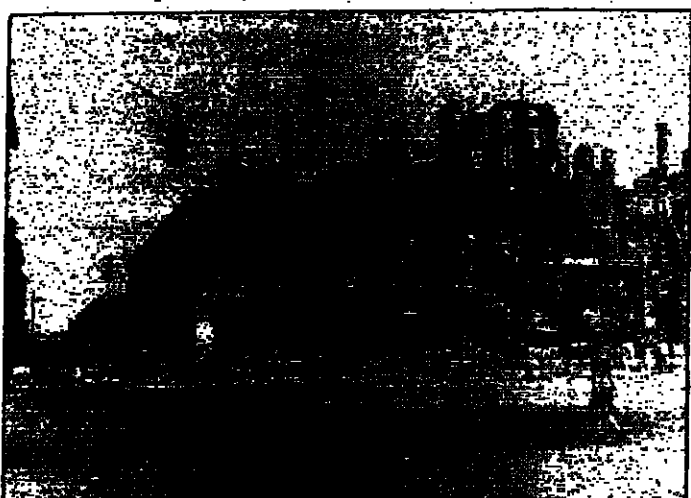
Dr. Helmut Kohl, chancellor



The Bundestag in session

Germany is the expression of an undreamed-of and scarcely expected road to success. Following years of terror and dictatorship, submissive spirit and injustice, the democratic state, founded on the rule of law, has established itself, successfully passed the tests to which it was subjected, and provides the population with the imperturbable attitude of being able to accept the challenges of the present time with guarded confidence within the framework of its order — challenges which it has to accept anyway.

What has persisted is the



Berlin in ruins after the end of World War II

reconciliation and collaboration with the peoples of Eastern Europe, not least Poland and the Soviet Union.

The German question remains an open item on the agenda, and also the subject of historical and cultural — occasionally even psychological — reflection of one's own country, the divided nation, the two states of Germany.

Democracy

The epochs of West German democracy can be sketched out in rough outlines. The fifties were stamped by an anti-totalitarian, not least an anti-communist consensus: they were the years of restoration, the reconstruction of the republic's edifices, in the literal and figurative sense of the word. The foundation stone was laid for uniquely successful prosperity which, together with peace and freedom, was the other great privilege of the Germans between Flensburg, on the Danish border, and Berchtesgaden, on the Austrian border. The irrevocable integration with the West resulted in the dreams of German reunification having to be shelved for the time being. Attempts by the Soviet Union to dislodge the West Germans from their alliance with the USA with the promise of national reunification fell on deaf ears for the most part.

The sixties led to further international recognition and increased prestige for the still young state — as well as growing internal, political pressure for reforms. The price of the fruits of prosperity was the neglect of social reform and consideration of non-material values. The student revolts also left their mark on the Federal Republic of Germany. In the end, there was a change of government in 1969, from the Christian Democrats who, under Federal Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, had mapped out the young polity's main course, to the Social Democrats, under Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt, who, with the "Ostpolitik", established new points of emphasis, and thus concluded the normalisation process of West Germany's role in the post-World War.

(Continued on Page 19)

680 German companies represented in Kuwait

Strong economic ties with Kuwait

THE relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and Kuwait do not date back a very long time: it was in 1973 only that a German consulate general was transformed into a fully fledged embassy. The relationship is dominated by the economic exchange between the two countries.

In that field both countries have concluded the following agreements: Air traffic agreement (1979), avoidance of double taxation with respect to income and capital (1986), post and telecommunication agreement (1987).

An agreement on improvement and protection on investment is being negotiated. Since January 1, 1973 Kuwait enjoys the advantages of the preferential system of the European



Kuwait has a stake in the shareholdings of the Daimler-Benz company in West Germany communities. The total amount of the exchange of goods traffic between both countries was

KD 135.2 million in 1988. German exports to Kuwait totalling KD 109.4 million faced imports from Kuwait amounting to KD 25.5 million. The period from 1983-1987 was one of stagnation and recession for the German side; the year 1988 saw a consolidation of the situation resulting from an increased export of gold (121.8 per cent), steel products (106.1 per cent) and chemical products (78.8 per cent). German vehicles, traditionally well-presented on the Kuwait market, had an increase of 9.1 per cent.

The German imports from Kuwait are made up of petrol, lubricants and natural gas (73 per cent), oil derivatives (12.7 per cent) and other products. In addition to commerce

(Continued on Page 19)

'We are proud of the new Germany'

Committed to progress

TODAY we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Federal Republic of Germany. On this special occasion we feel proud and happy.

Germany and Europe have lived in peace for more than 40 years. The Federal Republic of Germany has largely contributed to strengthening peaceful co-existence and co-operation in Europe and in the world. We are firmly committed to European unity and Atlantic partnership. But we also think that co-operation between East and West deserves any possible attention. These are the main pillars of our foreign policy.

We are proud that out of the debris, which a cruel and cynical dictatorship had left behind, a new Germany has come up, a Germany in which individual rights and social commitments are equally binding. These are the basic principles out of which private initiative is a backbone of

welfare and progress could prosper.

The Federal Republic of Germany has a firm place in the international community. It has regained top positions as industrial and exporting country. The Federal Republic of Germany is also committed to development progress of countries of the Third World.

Excellent trade, financial and scientific co-operation and an ever-growing flow of visitors from both sides show that Kuwait and the Federal Republic of Germany maintain close and friendly relations.

We want to share our joy with all our friends here in Kuwait. We have therefore organized the German Week in Kuwait's Regency Palace Hotel.

Message of H.E., the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany



Dr. Bernd Wulffen

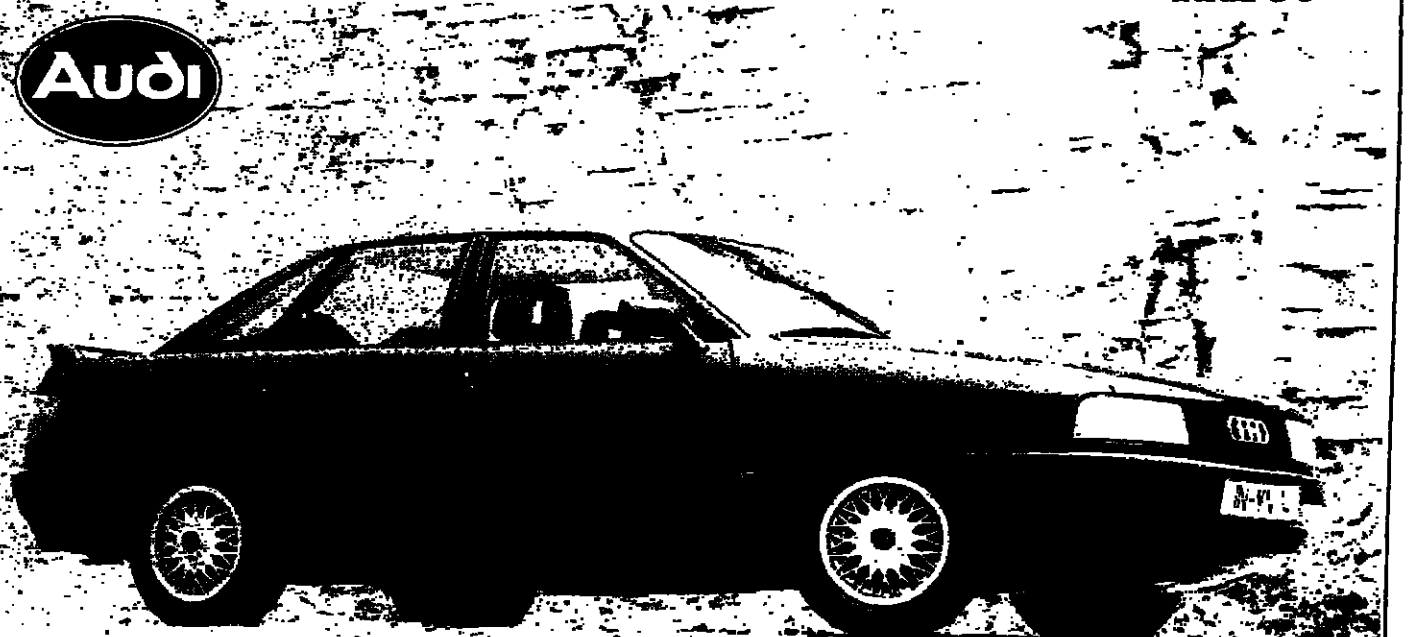
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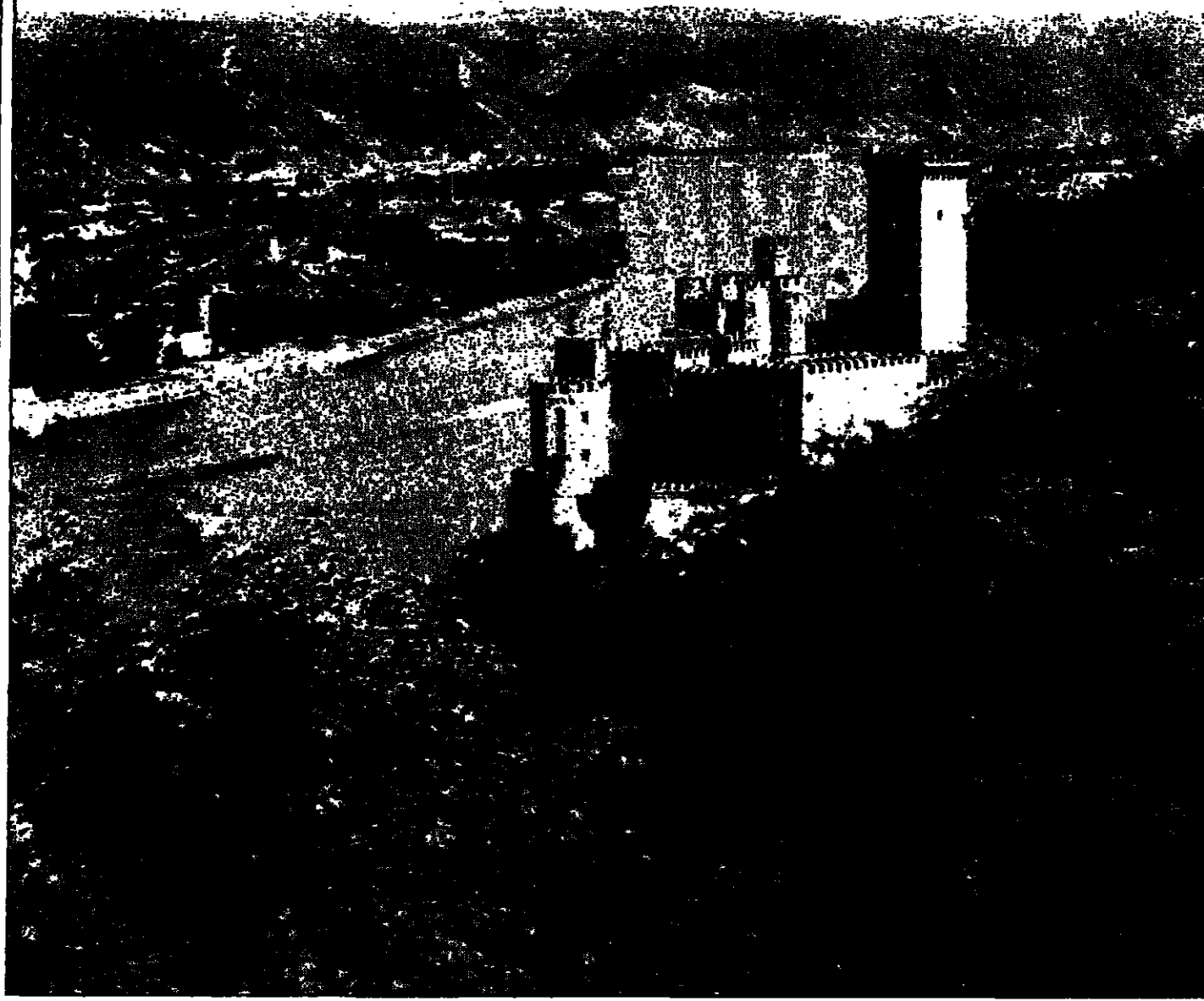
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Steeped in legend and saga

Royal castles, palaces bear witness to past splendour

Who has never dreamt of living in a medieval castle with a moat? In Germany you can, for many royal residences have now opened their gates to welcome guests, allowing you to fulfill those dreams of journeying into the past.



Stolzenfels Castle, built in the 13th century on the left bank of the Rhine near Koblenz.

THE Federal Republic of Germany is not only a country with an unusually varied range of scenic beauty and landscapes, but also a country with a wealth of fascinating cultural and historic attractions.

Of particular interests are the castles, palaces and royal residences which bear witness to times gone by. Visitors will find them scattered throughout the land in an impressive variety of forms, from the sumptuous baroque palaces, aristocratic hunting lodges and royal residences of Schleswig Holstein and Lower Saxony to the romantic moated palaces of North Rhine Westphalia, the idyllic palaces of Hesse, the many castles of the Rhine, the Moselle and Baden-Württemberg and the fairytale palaces of King Ludwig in Bavaria.

The history of the castles can be traced right back to the early Middle Ages.

They served first and foremost for purposes of defence. The rooms were gloomy and unliveable, the walls thick and the windows small and draughty.

Many castles were built and altered over the course of centuries. They were besieged, attacked, destroyed and rebuilt.

The history of the castles is inextricably linked with the history of the people who lived in them: the knights were responsible for defence in the Middle Ages. They had to defend the land and the people as well as functioning in the fields of administration, law and social matters.

The robber knights, on the other hand, knew neither law nor justice. They lived in the same period and wreaked havoc throughout the land, terrorising the people. These were the wild, rapacious band of knights who lived from pillage and war.

The palaces and residences stem from a later period than the castles. They served as the residences of princes, dukes, counts and barons and were representative of their status. These palaces and residences were incomparably comfortable and luxurious. A rich cultural life blossomed in the many residences, both large and small. The arts and sciences were supported and encouraged by those who lived there. Palaces and residences were often a social focal point which attracted the famous poets, musicians, painters and architects of the day.

In the wake of the French Revolution, castles and palaces lost their historic and social significance. When the special tasks and privileges of the aristocracy were extinguished after the First World War, an era of history came to an end.

Today, now that the castles and palaces have lost their original function, they keep the memory of times gone by alive, steeped in legend and saga. First and foremost, they are time-honoured monuments and testimonies of history. They have become a part of the landscape, or they form the focal point and unique landmark of an area or town. Those which are no



Castle Glücksburg near Flensburg

longer inhabited often serve as museums, youth hostels of administrative offices. Several of these buildings however, are still in the hands of the family that has lived there for centuries.

Thanks to the considerable work which has been done in recent times towards the upkeep and repair of the castles and palaces, many of them have now been restored to their former splendour.

Staying in castles and palaces

Who has never dreamt of living in a medieval knight's castle or in the tranquility of a Westphalian moated palace at the baroque residence, in a hunting lodge or a Hohenstaufen monarchic castle?

Many of these castles and palaces have now opened their gates to welcome guests, allowing

you to fulfil those dreams of journeying into the past, of dining by an open fire, of basking in the knight's hall of a royal residence. It is even possible that a count, a princess or a baron might serve your meal, pour your wine or at least welcome you as a guest.

The "Gast im Schloss" association has united the management of many of these historic residences and has combined them with beautiful tourist routes. In this way, it is

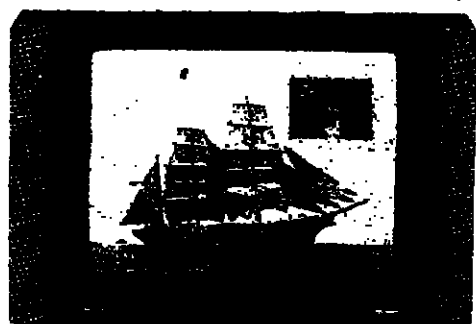
possible, for example, to follow a route that takes in castles, winemaking or cultural interests along the rivers Moselle and Rhine. You can visit the castles along the "Burgenstrasse" castle route, trace the footsteps of the travelling knights of German history or indulge in a tour of haute cuisine.

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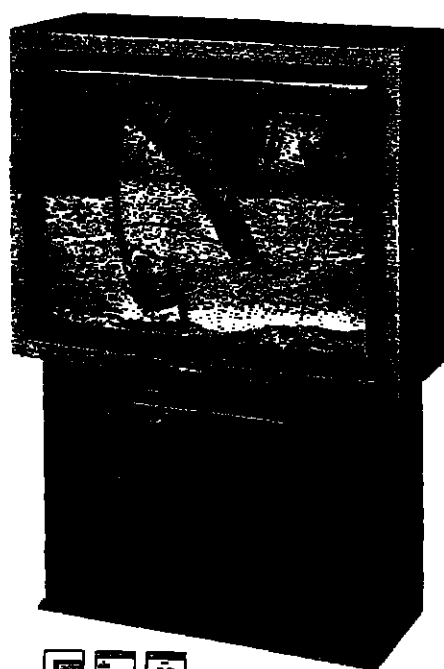
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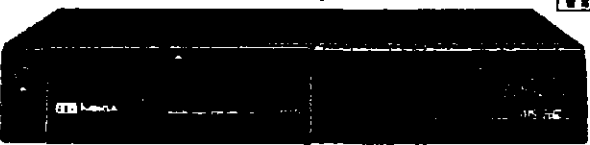
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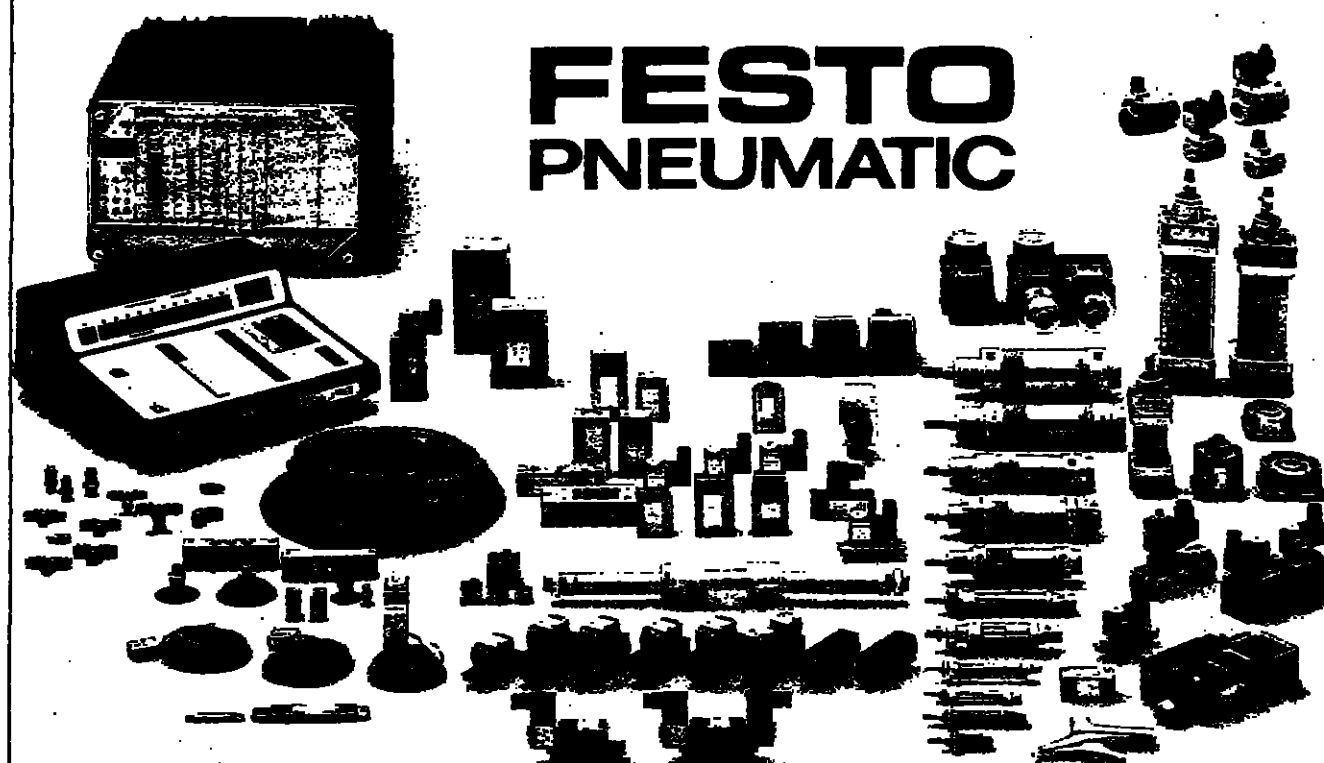
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Forty years of democracy

(Continued from Page 17)

Internal peace was threatened by the brutal violence of terrorism in the seventies. Fanatical, left-wing radicals kept the constitutional state of suspense with a series of murders and abductions; but the state successfully weathered these tribulations in the strength of its liberality, backed by the unwavering proof of loyalty by the overwhelming majority of the population.

Economic crises, the effects of the two oil crises and internal social adjustment problems subjected the country to trials of a more social nature. The impetus given to reform under Willy Brandt, was followed by sobriety and continuity, which so distinguished Helmut Schmidt, his successor, who was well versed in international economic matters. Despite all the turbulence, the population of the Federal Republic of Germany enjoyed a higher standard of living than almost all other nations in the world, and an incomparable living niveau — compared with its own history.

The epoch headed by the Social Democrats, with the assistance of the Liberals, their small coalition

partner, came to an end not least because of foreign policy developments. Chancellor Helmut Schmidt had sworn the Western alliance to the twin-track resolution to counter the Soviet arms build-up with SS20 rockets. He was, however, denied the support of the Social Democrats, his own party. At the same time, the Free Democrats objected to the economic policy being pursued by the Social Democratic partner. The "turning point" came in October 1982; a change of government restored power to the Christian Democrats who have governed the country under Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl — with Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher at his side — since that time and emerged successful from two federal elections for the German Bundestag. The Kohl government's track record to date includes economic prosperity, but a constantly high level of unemployment of eight per cent; closer cohesion with the American partner whilst clearly defining its own position, and new dynamism in (West) European integration.

The past 40 years permit various conclusions to be



The German people (above and right) enjoy one of the highest living standards in the world today.

drawn. The most important is possibly the fact that the Germans — and this is no small matter in the light of the history of this people — have adopted liberal, parliamentary democracy, its system of power-sharing and federalism, its internal constitutional order, and support it. The Germans do not want to rule over others any more; this is not just a banal statement when one considers the horror of the holocaust and the terrors of World War II.

The association and co-operation with France, the Western neighbour, have become so intensive that even Francois Mitterrand, the French President, speaks of a "community of fate". It constitutes the core of West European integration which is forging ahead dynamically. It is supported by the Atlantic alliance which is less undisputed today than it was 40 years ago —

particularly in the light of new Soviet foreign policy and disarmament initiatives — but which continues to be the unrenounceable guarantor for the security of the Federal Republic of Germany.

On the other hand, there is the process of reconciliation with Eastern Europe, the overcoming of the unnatural division of a continent, the most preposterous symbol of which is the wall through the middle of Berlin.

Federal President Richard von Weizsacker, the highly-esteemed, supreme representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, beyond the bounds of all political parties, has spoken of "system-opening co-operation" which is to lead to a new quality in relations between the peoples of Eastern and Western Europe.

EVERY tenth car in the world originates from a German factory. The Federal Association of the German Motor Car Industry (VDA) proudly recorded this fact in its largest business report.

In 1988, domestic factories employing around 740,000 produced 4.4 million new cars and multi-purpose vehicles worth 176 billion DM. More than half of this total, namely 2.45 million vehicles worth 60 billion DM were exported. At the same time, German subsidiary companies abroad produced some 1.5 million vehicles.

However, the Federal Republic of Germany is also open for foreign makers. In 1988, the number of foreign cars amounting to 2.9 million accounted for 29.2 per cent of new registrations and in January 1989, actually rose to 32 per cent. Of the 187,748 new registrations of cars and multi-purpose vehicles in January 1989, 60,022 were made abroad.

The Japanese with 13 per cent continue to hold first place among foreign makers. In January 1989, French manufacturers accounted for 7.3 per cent and Italian firms for 4.6 per cent of the new registrations.

The German motor car industry



Work on the intelligent car is pressing ahead.

owes its strong position on the world market to the quality, safety and the modern equipment of the vehicles it produces. Cars "Made in Germany" in the upper medium range with 1.5 litre capacity upwards are particularly in demand.

Last year, exports in this class rose by 4.6 per cent. According to VDA calculations, the average price per unit amounted to 23,500 DM — but this also includes low-price small cars.

the hourly rate amounts to 36.87 DM plus 15.57 DM secondary costs (social insurance) — the highest in the world. In the USA and Sweden, wage costs are seven per cent lower, in Japan 20 per cent less.

The largest single market for German vehicles in 1988 was once again the United States, which took 15.3 per cent of exports (in absolute figures — 376,000 units).

Great Britain was second with 340,000 cars, followed by France with 290,000 and Italy with 277,000 units. Altogether, some 60 per cent of German exports went to the eleven partner countries within the European Economic Community. German car makers hold a market share of around 30 per cent in these countries.

Wilhelm Lange,

This price is governed by the high wages paid in Germany —



40
FORTY YEARS
FEDERAL REPUBLIC
OF GERMANY

GERMAN WEEK



Exhibition and Family Entertainment
24th-27th May 1989. Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel
Under the auspices of the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany

Opening Reception

By the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany May 23rd, 1989, 19.00 hrs invitees only

Exhibition

May 24th, 25th and 27th

9.30 - 1 pm Trade only
5 pm - 9 pm General Public
9.30 - 9 pm General Public

Friday 26th

A total number of 36 stands exhibiting a wide variety of commodities from high technical equipment to foodstuff. Including: Internal decor, cosmetics, cars, porcelain, arts and crafts section with a doll maker, glass artisan and porcelain painter.

Gala Night Wednesday 24th May Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel, South Ballroom

Sumptuous German Buffet, entertainment provided by "Joana" and her band. Magic Show by Mr. Alexander.

Tickets KD 8/-

Reservation: Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel. Tel. 5728000.

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany Tel: 4814055 (Mon-Wed 9 am - 12 am)

German Embassy School Tel: 5640030 & German Library Tel: 4742000 Ext. 6096

First Tennis Nations Fun Cup Kuwait

From 18 - 25. 05. 1989 at Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel Indoor Tennis Center with 24 teams of different Nationality competing in knock-out system.

Final round Thursday, May 25, 1989, 3.00 - 8.00 pm

Presentation of awards by H.E. the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany

Tennis Fete with European snacks, drinks and music after the finals (Tickets available from Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel for KD 3/-).

Registration of teams (two male, one female of same Nationality), till May 13, 1989. Draw on May 16, 1989 at 8.00 pm. Information on all aspects of Nations Cup from Kuwait Regency Palace Fitness Center, Tel.: 5728000 - ext. 7114.

International Children's Festival

Friday May 26th, From 3 pm - 6 pm. Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel, South Ballroom

Tickets KD 1.500 Children, KD 3.000 Adults.

Attractions

Tombola, German and Kuwaiti folklore stands, Children's Fashion Show, Magician; Fishing Game; Marlboro racing car; Tug 'O' War; Disco; Ready-made pop corn, live band; costume parade of international costumes and a Smurf puppet show, plus a fortune teller.

Games

Hit a head (ball game); darts; pin a tail; stack a box; balloon busting; stilt walking; remote control car racing; painting competition (5-8 yrs); face painting, balloon competition, video games.

On Sale

T' Shirts, Hobby items

Plus cafeteria refreshments including sausages, hot dogs, French fries, soft drinks, coffee, tea and cakes.

Siemens AG / NGECO

30th Anniversary celebration, invitees only May 27th, 1989

Economic ties growing

(Continued from Page 17)

and trade German companies have had a big share in the industrial building up of the country in the past. The range of orders included the construction of shipbuilding yards and industrial projects (like power plants or transformers) as well as hospitals and poultry-farming plants. Currently approximately 680 German companies are represented in Kuwait through sole agency agreements, four representatives of the German industry have been active in Kuwait for more than 25 years.

The number of Kuwaiti direct investments in the Federal Republic of Germany is significant. They mainly consist of shareholdings at companies like Daimler-Benz, Korf-Stahl, Metallgesellschaft, Hoechst and VW do Brasil.

In the field of science and technology the bilateral co-operation has experienced remarkable progress. In December 1984 a pilot seawater desalination plant with a capacity of 3,000 cbm/day has been put into operation with a German financial participation of KD 6.84 million. Working after the principle of reverse osmosis the plant is the biggest pilot plant of its kind currently in use.

In the field of solar energy the Messerschmidt Boelkow Blohm Co. has constructed a solar power plant in Sulcihiya including a special brackish

water treatment plant. In addition the Federal Ministry of Research and Technology has promoted a demonstration project of the AEG Co. for electricity production through photovoltaic (direct transformation of solar energy to electricity through solar cells).

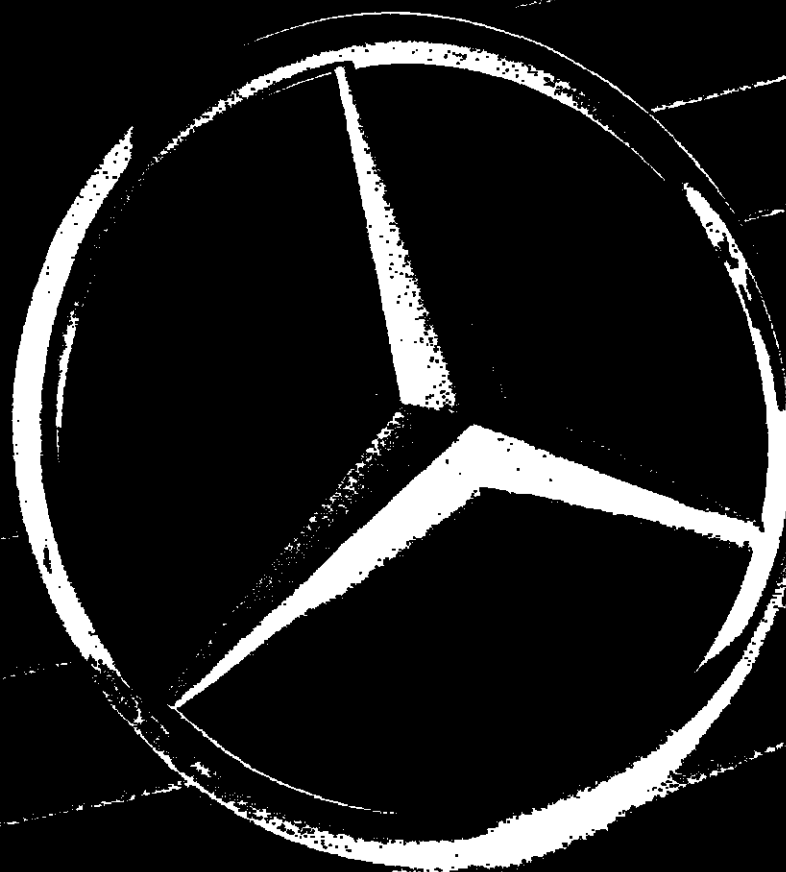
At present the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research is co-operating with the University of Hohenheim (near Stuttgart) on a green house project. The basic idea is to optimise the growth process for various vegetables by using solar energy and biological techniques. New starting points for future co-operation could be treatment of potable water and sewer, oil pollution in the Arabian Gulf, solid waste disposal and utilisation of wind energy.

Since early 1988 Kuwait has been building up co-operation with the Federal Republic of Germany in the vocational training field. Currently three trainers of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training receive further education in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The introduction of German training programmes into existing schedules of vocational training in Kuwait is being negotiated.

It is generally of great importance between nations with close ties to exchange trade delegations. Good results have been obtained in the past.

The New SL A Living Legend



For the first time since the International Motorshow in Geneva, the All New Mercedes-Benz SL — sports cars are on display in Kuwait.

We cordially invite you to the world premiere at our stand during the German Week from May 23 to May 27, 1989 at the Sheikh Ballroom, Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel from 9.30 - 1.00 pm & 5.00 - 9.00 pm.

Don't miss the chance of previewing this premiere of the "Beginning of a new Mercedes-Benz Legend."

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Bulls fight back to outclass Pistons

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan, May 22 (AP) — The Chicago Bulls squandered a 24-point lead, then rallied behind Michael Jordan to beat the Detroit Pistons 94-88 in the first game of the NBA's Eastern Conference basketball final yesterday.

Game 2 of the best-of-7 series will be tomorrow at the Palace, with games 3 and 4 Saturday and next Monday at Chicago.

Jordan, who entered the game as the leading scorer in the playoffs, averaged only 27.7

points against Detroit during the regular season. He scored 10 of his 32 points in the fourth quarter.

The Bulls, in the conference finals for only the third time in the club's 23-year history, were 0-6 against the Pistons during the regular season. They also were 0-6 against Cleveland, but eliminated the Cavaliers in the first round.

It also was the third straight series in which the Bulls won the opening game on the road, beating Cleveland and New York earlier.

Detroit, which trailed by as many as 24 points in the second quarter, fought back to take a brief lead, 74-73, on a basket by Dennis Rodman with 8:33 remaining. But Scottie Pippen's basket 19 seconds later put the Bulls ahead for good.

The Pistons, riding a club record 12-game winning streak and a 25-game streak at home, had beaten the Bulls in their previous nine meetings, including five at Chicago.

Pirates pound Astros

Tigers maul Royals

NEW YORK, May 22, (AP) — Andy van Slyke had four hits, drove in four runs and scored four runs and Neal Heaton won for the first time since last July as Pittsburgh Pirates crushed Houston Astros 17-5 yesterday at the Astrodome.

Van Slyke had two singles, a double and home run in leading the Pirates' 18-hit attack. Bobby Bonilla drove in three runs with a pair of hits, including his fifth home run.

The 17 runs were the most for the Pirates since May 9, 1979, when they beat Atlanta 17-9.

Utilitymen Craig Reynolds and Greg Gross both pitched for the Astros, allowing six runs.

Heaton, 1-4 pitched five innings and gave up nine hits and four runs for his first victory since July 26, 1988, while he was pitching for Montreal. The win snapped a personal eight-man losing streak.

In other National League games yesterday, it was Montreal 3, Los Angeles 1; San Francisco 10, New York 6; Philadelphia 3, San Diego 1; St. Louis 6, Atlanta 1, 10 innings; and Cincinnati 7, Chicago 2.

Giant 10, Mets 6.

Terry Kennedy's pinch three-run double highlighted a six-run seventh and Kevin Mitchell had four hits, including his Major League-leading 14th homer, as St. Louis rallied to beat New York.

A two-out throwing error by shortstop Kevin Elster in the seventh led to five unearned runs. The six runs were the most scored against the Mets in an inning this season, as the Giants sent nine men to the plate off relievers Terry Leach and Roger McDowell, 1-3.

Expos 3, Dodgers 1

Bryn Smith pitched a four-hitter and Rubie Brooks and Mike Aldrete hit consecutive run-scoring doubles in a three-run fourth inning, leading Montreal past Los Angeles.

Smith, 4-1, struck out nine and walked one as the Expos snapped a five-game losing streak.

Philips 3, Padres 1

Steve Jeltz hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning to snap a tie as Philadelphia beat San Diego, breaking the Padres' five-game winning streak.

Philips starter Bob Sebra, who was recalled from class AAA Scranton-Wilkes Barre of the International League on May 17, allowed one run and seven hits in eight innings. Sebra, 1-0, struck out eight and walked none. Steve Bedrosian got the last three outs for his fourth save.

Cardinals 6, Braves 1

Third baseman Ron Gant's fielding error allowed the go-ahead run to score and Willie McGee hit a two-run single in a five-run 10th inning as St. Louis defeated Atlanta.

Frank DiPino, 2-0, pitched 11-3 innings of one-hit relief, sending the Braves to their seventh loss in nine games.

Reds 7, Cubs 2

Eric Davis went 4-for-5 and drove in three runs and Rick Mahler pitched a four-hitter as Cincinnati beat Chicago, snapping the Cub's five-game winning streak.

Mahler, 6-4, struck out six and walked three en route to his third complete game of the season.

Tigers 4, Royals 2

Fred Lynn had three hits, including the double leading Detroit past the Kansas City

Royals 4-2 for the Tigers' first three-game sweep this season.

Paul Gibson, 2-3, allowed eight hits in 6-1-3 innings, struck out five, walked one and hit two batters. Guillermo Hernandez pitched the final 2-1-3 innings for his eighth save, striking out four.

Mark Gubicza, 3-4, pitched a six-hitter, struck out three and walked three in his third complete game. Kansas City has lost four straight and 10 in a row at Tiger stadium.

In other American League games yesterday, it was Cleveland 2, Baltimore 0; Toronto 9, Chicago 3; Minnesota 6, Texas 1; California 12, Milwaukee 9; Oakland 5, Boston 4; and New York 6, Seattle 2.

Indians 2, Orioles 0

Rich Yeti, Scott Bailes and Doug Jones combined on a five-hitter and Cleveland scored two unearned runs in the second inning.

Yeti, 4-2, gave up three hits in six innings, walked two and struck out one. He strained his right tricep while pitching to Joe Orsulak, the final batter of the sixth inning. Yeti finished the inning but then was replaced by Bailes, who allowed two hits in 1-3 innings.

Jones finished with hitless relief for his ninth save.

Blue Jays 9, White Sox 3

Nelson Liriano had three hits, including a go-ahead double in the sixth inning, and Toronto swept the three-game series.

George Bell and Ernie Whitt hit ninth-inning homers and John Cerutti won for the first time since beating Minnesota on July 27, 1988.

Twins 6, Rangers 1

Gene Larkin hit a game-tying single in the eighth inning and

Carmen Castillo followed with a go-ahead double.

Francisco Oliveras, 1-2, won his first Major League game, allowing four hits in seven innings, striking out three and walking none in his second start. Juan Berenguer finished with hitless relief for his first save.

Angels 12, Brewers 9

Claudell Washington homered twice and drove in four runs and Bill Schroeder hit his second career Grand Slam.

Washington hit an RBI double in the first, a two-run homer in the second and a solo homer in the sixth, his fifth of the season. He also singled in the eighth.

Yankees 6, Mariners 2

Rookie Clay Parker pitched a five-hitter and struck out 10 in his third Major League start.

Parker, a 26-year-old right-hander, took a shutout into the ninth before Ken Griffey Jr. hit an inside-the-park homer on a line drive that bounced off the head of a diving Roberto Kelly in center and bounced toward the left-field corner. Parker, 2-0, walked two in his first Major League complete game.

Rookie Bob Geren hit a two-run single in the sixth inning that put the Yankees ahead 4-0 and homered in the eighth inning.

Athletics 5, Red Sox 4

Dave Parker snapped a tie with a bases-loaded single in a four-run fifth inning as Oakland beat Roger Clemens, 2-3.

With Oakland trailing 3-1, Tony Phillips hit an RBI single and Ron Hassey homered to snap an 0-for-25 slump. Luis Polonia's single tied the score and Parker singled in two runs, extending his hitting streak to nine games.

Soviet team may pull out of NHL tour

LONDON, Ontario, May 22, (AP) — The Soviets may pull out of the four-team tour of National Hockey League clubs planned for next season after the defection of star winger Alexander Mogilny and his subsequent signing by the Buffalo Sabres, a newspaper reported yesterday.

"They want the money (an estimated \$600,000 from the tour) but that could be overshadowed by the Mogilny situation," a Hockey Canada source requesting anonymity told the London Free Press. "If they come at all, they definitely will not play the Buffalo Sabres."

The series has been broken into two parts. The first, lasting six games, is scheduled to run from Dec 1-10, and the second, lasting 15 games, will take place from Dec 26-Jan 1.

"There could be a problem with Buffalo but the tournament is on as far as I'm concerned," said Alan Eagleson, executive director of the National Hockey League Players Association.

Watson knocks out Benn

LONDON, May 22, (AP) — Michael Watson, absorbing a barrage of blows and counter-punching brilliantly, knocked out Nigel Benn at 1:34 of the sixth round and took Benn's Commonwealth middleweight boxing title yesterday.

The bout lived up to expectations as the two British fighters produced an electrifying contest. Watson, ranked No. 3 by the World Boxing Council listings, used his superior technical skills to wear down the big-punching Benn, ranked fourth, and shook his opponent with a right to the eye in the middle of round six.

Benn turned away as if to complain about the punch but was ordered to box on. He walked straight into a left jab that knocked him down.

Although on his feet by the count of nine, Benn was counted out and suffered his first professional defeat. Watson improved 22-1-1.

Benn entered the ring, erected in a tent in north London, wearing a dazzling silver and gold suit. He opened the fight by pounding on Watson. But the challenger protected his chin superbly and absorbed most of Benn's punches on his gloves.

Benn, winner of all his previous fights by knockout, tried to blast his way through Watson's high-held guard.

But in doing so, he left himself exposed and was badly shaken in the fourth and fifth rounds by Watson's crisis counter-punching.

Each time, Benn recovered to move back on the attack, kidding Watson he wasn't hurt and hammering his fellow Londoner back against the ropes.

But in the sixth round, Benn ran out of punching power and Watson knocked him out.

Rugby unions asked to rethink move

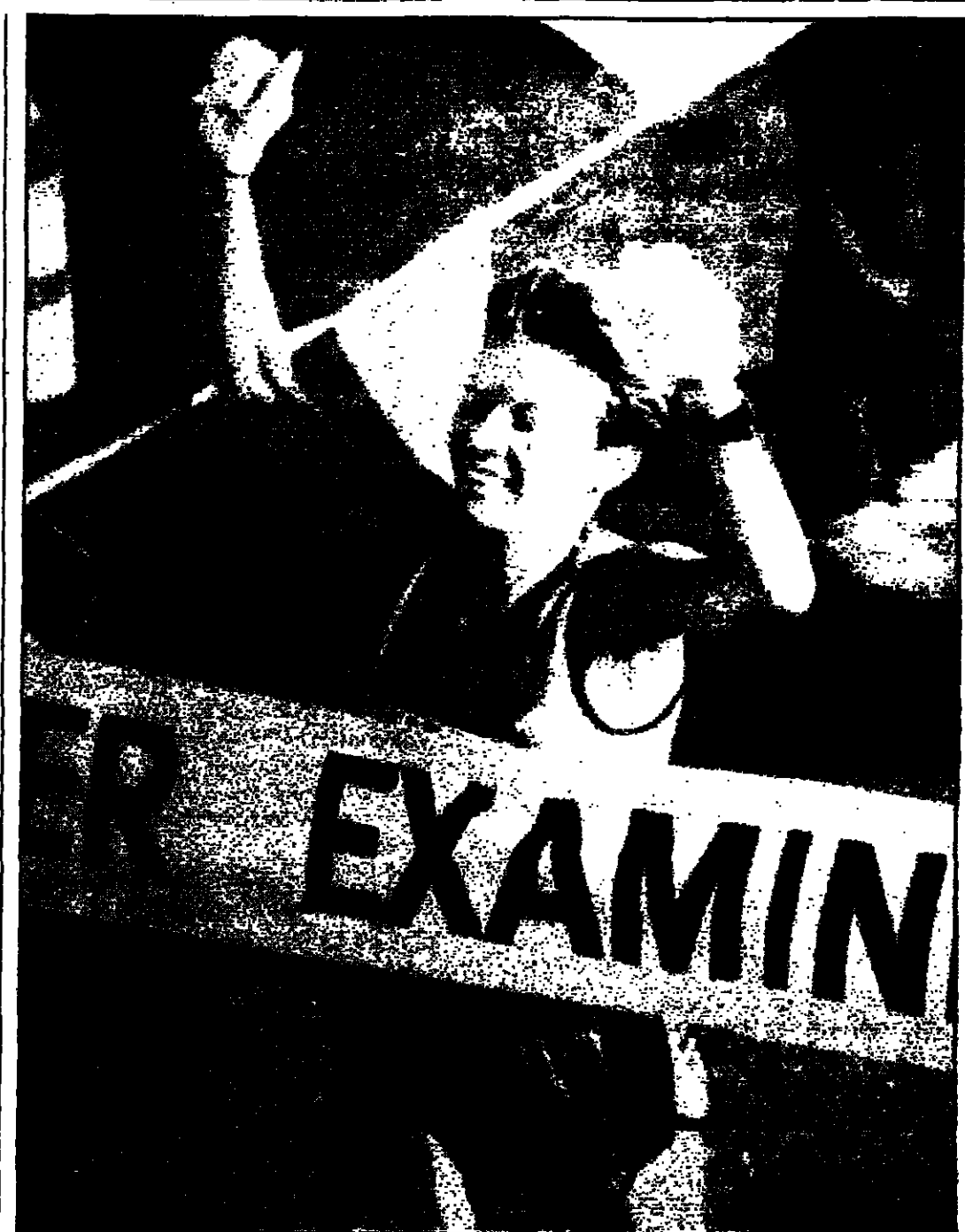
WELLINGTON, May 22, (Reuters) — Foreign Minister Russell Marshall called on British rugby unions yesterday to rethink decisions allowing players to play in South Africa, a move which could hit Commonwealth Games to be held in New Zealand.

"I appeal to the British rugby unions to take a hard look at Pretoria," he said in a statement. "Rugby players will find in South Africa little more than a police state with racial discriminations enshrined in the very laws of the country."

"I would like the British rugby unions to reconsider their decisions."

The Welsh, Scottish and English rugby unions have decided they will forward to their players any invitations to matches marking the South African rugby board's centenary in August.

Marshall also backed David Johnson, chief organizer of the 1990 Commonwealth Games in Auckland, who last week condemned the unions' moves.



Kristiansen raises her arms as she crosses the finish line. (Reuters wirephoto)

Flames beat Canadiens to even series

MONTREAL, May 22, (Reuters) — Joe Mullen scored two goals to help the Calgary Flames beat the Montreal Canadiens 4-2 yesterday to even their best-of-seven series for the National Hockey League's Stanley Cup at two games apiece.

Doug Gilmore and Al Macinis contributed the other two Flames goals to send the series back to Calgary on Tuesday, all even.

The first period was scoreless but Montreal killed off almost a minute and a half at the end of the period when Calgary had a two-man advantage.

At 11:56 of the second period Gilmore came out of the penalty box and intercepted a cross-ice pass from Montreal's Bobby Smith, skated in alone on Canadian goalkeeper Patrick Roy and beat him for his ninth goal of the playoffs.

The Flames made it 2-0 at 18:43 when Mullen put the rebound of a Macinis Blue Line rocket past Roy.

With Calgary looking in total control, Montreal's Russ Courtnall scored at 10:59 of the third period with a 10-foot backhand after getting behind the Flames' defence.

The Flames then seemed to clinch the game at 18:22 when Macinis scored his sixth goal of the playoff in a two-on-one break with Joel Otto.

But Montreal came back in the final minute as Claude Lemieux, benched for games two and three, beat Calgary goalie Mike Vernon with 27 seconds left to draw within one.

Mullen, however, finally put the game away with an empty net goal 11 seconds from the end. It was his 15th goal of the playoffs, making him the leading scorer of the playoffs.

Porsche score first sportscar win since 1987

DIJON, France, May 22, (Reuters) — A Porsche won a World Sportscar Championship race yesterday for the first time since 1987, holding off the might of Mercedes.

In the second round of this year's championship, Bob Wollek of France and West German Frank Jelinski had 38 seconds to spare over France's Jean-Louis Schlesser and Jochem Mass of West Germany at the end of the 480-km race.

The other Mercedes pair, Kemy Achesson of Britain and Italian Mauro Baldi, finished a further 38 seconds away in third place.

Jaguar, who had a poor opening first round in Japan last month, fared no better yesterday.

British Andy Wallace suffered a burst tyre on lap 79 while, just as in Japan, Dutchman Jan Lammers ran out of fuel.

Schlesser, winner in Japan, leads the driver's standings by three points from Baldi, Wollek and Jelinski.

American athletes dominate

SAO PAULO, May 22, (Reuters) — Spearheaded by Olympic champion Joe DeLoach and world record holder Renaldo Nehemiah, American athletes dominated the fifth International Athletics Meeting of Brazil, winning 10 of the 18 events yesterday.

DeLoach, winner of the 200-metres at Seoul, proved that he has the potential to become a top contender in other events, winning the 100-metres in a convincing time of 10.28 seconds, ahead of fellow countryman Floyd Heard in 10.30 seconds.

"I had a slow start but was able to recover, reaching full acceleration at the end," DeLoach said. "I'm very happy, because we had a strong field out there."

Nehemiah, who still holds the world record for the 110-metre hurdles, won his event after narrowly beating countryman Arthur Blake. Nehemiah clocked 13.54 seconds, far below his all-time best of 12.93 seconds.

"At this stage of my career, I'm no longer worried about breaking my own record. I let the others worry about that. I feel pleasure just winning races," Nehemiah said.

But the day also saw a disappointment for the Americans. In the 100-metres, for instance, veteran Evelyn Ashford, a former record holder, was beaten by Jamaican Merlene Ottey, who clocked 11.30 seconds, against Ashford's 11.37 seconds.

Ottey also won the 200 metres clocking 23.14 seconds, ahead of Argentina's Olga Conte, at 23.47 seconds.

Local hero Robson da Silva, who finished a distant fifth in the 100-metres, brought excitement to the 10,000 partisan crowd that packed the stadium, winning the 200 metres in 20.50.

"It's strange. I just felt I couldn't disappoint these fans. I never felt so nervous," Da Silva said.

In the long distance events, the Africans dominated, as expected.

Olympic 10,000 metres champion Moroccan Brahim Boutayeb took the 5,000-metres in 13 minutes 41.50 seconds while Kenyan Kip Cheruiyot won the 1,500 metres clocking 3:42.78 seconds.

Meanwhile, it was announced that Carl Lewis is to abandon the 200 metres to pursue world records in the long jump and 100 metres.

The double gold medalist from the Seoul Olympics said yesterday he expected to continue in athletics for another five years and hoped to compete in two events at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

Lewis said at the meeting here: "My coach and myself have decided to drop the 200 metres. From now on I'll concentrate only on the 100 metres and long jump."



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Cup qualifier

FRANKFURT, West Germany, May 22. (AP) West German national soccer team manager Franz Beckenbauer today named experienced defender Klaus Augenthaler and three other Bayern Munich players in a 19-man squad for the World Cup qualifying match against Wales next week.

Norway triumph

OSLO, May 22. (Reuters) Three goals in the first 24 minutes swept Norway to a 3-1 win over Cyprus in their World Cup soccer qualifying match yesterday.

W. German soccer

BONN, May 22. (Reuters) Sepp Blatter, secretary-general of soccer's world governing body FIFA, was reported yesterday to have criticised plans to reform the points system in the West German League, saying the measures would make the game and spectators more aggressive.

Benfica draw

LISBON, May 22. (Reuters) Benfica, who clinched the Portuguese League title two weeks ago, finished the season by scrambling to a 2-2 draw at home to third-placed Boavista yesterday.

Soviet Cup

MOSCOW, May 22. (Reuters) Dnepropetrovsk beat Dynamo Tbilisi 2-1 (half-time 1-0) yesterday to reach the final of the Soviet Soccer Cup against Torpedo Moscow.

Barcelona win

LOGRONO, Spain, May 22. (Reuters) Barcelona cut archrivals Real Madrid's lead to four points at the top of the Spanish First Division yesterday, beating lowly Logrones 2-0 despite playing half the match with 10 men.

Seniors golf

SCARBOROUGH, New York, May 22. (AP) Bob Charles shot a 5-under-par 65 Sunday to successfully defend his title in the \$300,000 Seniors Commemorative golf tournament, breaking his own tournament record with a 17-under-par 193 total for 54 holes.

Diving meet

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida, May 22. (AP) Matt Scoggin won the 10-metre platform competition in yesterday's final of the Aloha Challenge diving meet to give the United States a sweep of the men's events, but China won the overall title.

IBF fight

PHOENIX, May 22. (AP) Jorge Paez has retained his International Boxing Federation (IBF) featherweight title after battling Louie Espinoza to a 12-round draw.

Final sprint

CATANIA, Sicily, May 22. (AP) Jean van Poppel of the Netherlands turned on the speed in the final sprint to win the first stop of the Tour of Italy cycling championship yesterday.

Relay race

STANFORD, Calif., May 22. (Reuters) Olympic 400 metres champion Steve Lewis won his speciality and anchored the winning 1,600-metre relay team as University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) won their third straight Conference Athletics title yesterday.

Erratic team

ATHENS, Greece, May 22. (AP) AEK of Athens, an erratic team which settled down in the second half of the season, yesterday was officially declared the winner of the 1988-89 Greek First Division Soccer League.

Martin triumphs

CONCORD, North Carolina, May 22. (AP) Sterling Martin held off a hard-charging Brett Bodine by less than a second to win the \$200,000 Winston Open stock car race for a second straight year yesterday at the Charlotte Motor Speedway.

All Blacks

AUCKLAND, May 22. (Reuters) Flyhalf Grant Fox said today several All Blacks backed a New Zealand rugby football union (NZRFU) paper calling for limited payments to players, even if they split the rugby world. But a senior New Zealand rugby official said the union still believed in the amateur game and doubted it would break away from the International Rugby Board (IRB) over the issue.

Italian Open win boosts Mancini's Paris hopes

ROME, May 22. (Reuters) In the space of three weeks Alberto Mancini has upset three of the world's top five tennis players, earned two titles and more than \$250,000 and set himself up as one of the favourites for the French Open championship.

The 20-year-old Argentine had won just one Grand Prix tournament—in Bologna—before this year and was seeded only 11th for the Italian Open.

Yet he displayed the mark of a true champion in yesterday's Rome final when he turned the tables on second seed Andre

Agassi, cancelling out matchpoint against him and winning the title in five sets.

Mancini, ranked 25th in the world going into the Italian Open, duly added the American's scalp to those of West German Boris Becker and Swede Mats Wilander, the world's number two and three whom he beat in the final and semifinal of the Monte Carlo Open two weeks ago.

The two title wins meant a great deal to the hard-hitting Argentine baseliner. "I

think Monte Carlo and Rome are the two most important tournaments on clay after Roland Garros," he said.

While Rome did little to boost the self-esteem of bigger names like Wilander and American Jimmy Connors, both beaten by unseeded players, Mancini sets out for Paris and next week's French Open in high spirits thanks to his 6-3 4-6 2-6 7-6 6-1 triumph in the final.

"I have gained a lot of confidence," he said. "But it is very hard to win Roland Garros because it is two weeks and all the

matches are five sets. It is very hard on your mind as well."

The one thing Mancini lacks is consistency. His error-ridden performance against Spaniard Jordi Arrese in the Italian semifinals drew whistles from the Foro Italico crowd and only the fact that his opponent made even more mistakes saved him.

He was also helped by not having to play a third-round match when his scheduled opponent, sixth seed Emilio Sanchez of Spain, pulled out with injury.

Liverpool on verge of history

West Ham seek to stay in First Division



Rush (left) and Aldridge hold aloft the FA Cup after winning it on Saturday. (Reuters wirephoto)

LONDON, May 22. (Reuters) Liverpool's famous FA Cup triumph over Everton on Saturday has put them on the verge of English soccer history.

Victory against West Ham at Anfield tomorrow would make Liverpool, now unbeaten in 23 games, virtual certainties to retain their League title and become the first club to capture the League and Cup double twice.

It would be an amazing end to an incredible season, which saw Liverpool make a poor start and then suffer the trauma of the Hillsborough disaster.

Kenny Dalglish, 38, who won the double during his first season in charge three years ago, would have the most remarkable record of any First Division manager in the League's history.

If they beat West Ham, Liverpool would be three points ahead of Arsenal, with a better goal difference, and George Gra-

ham's side would have to win comfortably in the decider at Anfield on Friday to snatch it from their grasp on goal difference.

But snatching championship on the finishing line would be nothing new to Arsenal.

They have won their last two League titles in the final match of the season—in 1953 and 1971, when they completed the double.

In 1953 they became only the third side this century to win the title on goal average, after finishing level on points with Preston.

Liverpool's game tomorrow has extra spice because West Ham must win if they are to stay in Division One and edge above fourth-from-bottom Aston Villa.

If West Ham, five wins in their last six games, were to triumph tomorrow, it would set up the most exciting title climax for years.

Dalglish must decide whether to promote Cup final hero Ian Rush to the starting line-up for the West Ham game.

The manager was saying nothing after Wembley, but Rush was expected to be on the bench once more.

"I probably won't be starting," said the 27-year-old Welsh international. "That is the way things are here."

Rush stepped off the bench to replace John Aldridge in Saturday's final, then scored twice in extra time to give Liverpool beat Everton 3-1.

Dalglish feels he will have little problem in bringing his side back to earth for tomorrow's game.

"We will enjoy ourselves and we are looking forward to tomorrow," he said. "I think the way they played in extra time answers any questions about how difficult it was for me to lift them."

Platini asked to quit as French coach

PARIS, May 22. (Reuters) Claude Bez, the controversial figure who persuaded Michel Platini to take charge of the French national team, has said the former European Footballer of the Year is not up to the job and should resign.

Bez, president of the Bordeaux club, said: "Michel was the greatest of our players. But as chief of the national team, he is not up to it. In the interest of football, he must go."

Platini took charge of the national team last November with a crisis mission to help France qualify for the World Cup finals in Italy next year. But his side has taken only one point in three matches since he took the post and is now virtually out of the running.

Bez, dissatisfied with the way Platini's predecessor Henri Michel was faring, persuaded the French Football Federation to dump their trainer and appoint the former Juventus midfielder in his place.

Dutch influence could be decisive

AC Milan set to take on Steaua

BARCELONA, May 22. (Reuters) Ruud Gullit will be bidding to add a European Cup winner's medal to the European championship honour he won with the Netherlands last year when, fitness permitting, he leads AC Milan against Steaua Bucharest in the European Cup final here on Wednesday.

The tall, powerful and dreadlocked Dutchman was the inspiration of his country's triumph in West Germany last June and is expected to be the Italians' key figure against the Romanians if his right knee can take the strain.

Gullit was carried off a month ago during Milan's 5-0 semifinal second leg thrashing of Real Madrid and has made only one brief appearance as a substitute since a cartilage operation following that match.

But such is his importance to both Milan and the status of a richly-promising final, the gifted man they have dubbed the 'Black Tulip' is expected to return

alongside fellow European title-winning Dutchmen Marco van Basten and Frank Rijkaard in a full-strength Italian team.

Indeed, Milan's hopes of winning the Champions' Cup for a third time could hinge on Gullit's fitness and the form of their brilliant Dutch trio against the Romanian Army team.

Against Madrid on April 19, all three displayed the technical excellence, industry and selfless teamwork which characterised the Netherlands' European Championship triumph last year.

A similar performance on Wednesday would almost certainly secure a Champions' Cup victory to follow those Milan achieved in 1963 and 1969 in the golden days of Gianni Rivera. But the Italians, installed last September as favourites for the premier prize in European club soccer, face resilient and resourceful opponents in 1986 winners Steaua.

The Romanian champions,

who beat Barcelona on penalties in Seville to lift the Cup three years ago, have a team full of experience and determination fully capable of capitalising on any weaknesses in the high-powered 'pressing' game regularly employed by Italian coach Arrigo Sacchi's entertaining side.

Hagi, 24, has proved himself to be a player worthy of comparison with former French captain Michel Platini with his dribbling and shooting skills and he is well complemented in midfield by Tudorel Stoica, Gavril Baltin and Iosif Rotariu.

In attack, the Romanians can call upon the experienced Victor Piturca, Europe's third-highest goalscorer last year, and speedy right-winger Marius Lacatus, who hit a hat-trick for Steaua in their 5-1 demolition of IFK Gothenburg of Sweden in a quarter-final second leg tie.

Having established themselves as the first East European club to win the continent's premier club competition, Steaua, formed in 1947, will have to psychological disadvantages to conquer.



Ruud Gullit

England call up Fashanu and Clough

LONDON, May 22. (Reuters) England soccer manager Bobby Robson gave the responsibility for scoring goals to newcomers John Fashanu and Nigel Clough when he named his team today for tomorrow's Rous Cup match against Chile at Wembley.

Robson, hit by injuries and unavailability, also called up forward Paul Gascoigne and defender Paul Parker, whose only previous senior international appearances were as substitutes.

Chile, who will be playing at Wembley for the first time, delayed naming their team because three players with European clubs—Alejandro Hissis and Jaime Vera, who both play for Off Crete, and Hugo Rubio of Verona—had not arrived.

Clough emulates his father Brian, the Nottingham Forest manager, who made two England appearances 30 years ago. Fashanu becomes the first player from London club Wimbledon to play for the full England side.

With Gary Lineker and Peter Beardsley among the players unavailable, Robson had little option

but to field Clough and Fashanu together.

Robson was unable to name a central defender to play alongside Des Walker. Terry Butcher has a badly blistered foot and Mark Wright was standing by to replace him.

Commenting on the injuries and absences, Robson said: "We are in just a little bit of bother, but in fact it's not a bad looking team and we have managed to keep the shape although we might have to nail Gascoigne to the touchline."

England—Peter Shilton, Paul Parker, Des Walker, Terry Butcher or Mark Wright, Stuart Pearce, Neil Webb, Bryan Robson, Paul Gascoigne, Nigel Clough, John Fashanu, Chris Waddle.

Chile (from)—Marco Cornez, Roberto Rojas, Fernando Astengo, Leonel Contreras, Ruben Espinoza, Hugo Gonzalez, Jaime Ramirez, Patricio Reyes, Alejandro Hissis, Osvaldo Hurtado, Juvenal Olmos, Raul Ormeno, Luis Perez, Jaime Pizarro, Hector Puebla, Jaime Vera, Ivo Basay, Juan Covarrubias, Juan Letelier, Ruben Martinez, Hugo Rubio, Lukas Tudor, Patricio Yanez.

Baker-Finch hits 70 for victory

FORT WORTH, Texas, May 22. (Reuters) Ian Baker-Finch completed a start-to-finish victory by posting an even-par 70 in the final round yesterday to win the Colonial golf tournament by four shots for his first US PGA Tour victory.

Baker-Finch, who topped the leaderboard after each of the million-dollar tournament's first three rounds, took the title in comfortable fashion with a total of 10-under-par 270.

David Edwards made a late move by returning a five-under-par 65 over the Colonial Country Club course to finish alone in second place at 274.



Nancy Lopez shows her joy after winning the LPGA Championship. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lopez wins 40th career title

KING ISLAND, Ohio, May 22. (Reuters) Nancy Lopez fired a six-under-par 66 yesterday to win the LPGA Championship by three strokes and end a year-long stretch without a victory for the Hall of Fame golfer.

Lopez, who began the day two shots behind Japan's Ayako Okamoto, finished with a 14-under-par 274 total to register her 40th career title.

Okamoto shot 71 to finish

alone in second place at 277. Susan Sanders, after a 68, was third at 278.

"I am so glad I finally got my 40th win," said Lopez, whose last victory came last May in the New Jersey Classic. "It seemed like I was on my 39th win forever. I got to where I hated the number 39."

The victory was Lopez' third in this major championships, following victories in 1979 and 1985.

Arab stars to play in Cairo

THE leading Arab football players are to take part in the first ever Stars Cup, soft drink sponsored by Pepsi-Cola, in Cairo on May 26.

Top stars from 19 Arab countries are taking part in the exhibition game held under the joint patronage of President Hosni Mubarak and HH Prince Faisal bin Fahd, president of UFAFA.

The match will be played between Arab stars from Asia and from Africa.

Representing Kuwait are Samir Saeed, Hamoud Flaith, Muayed Al Haddad and Faisal Al Dakhl.

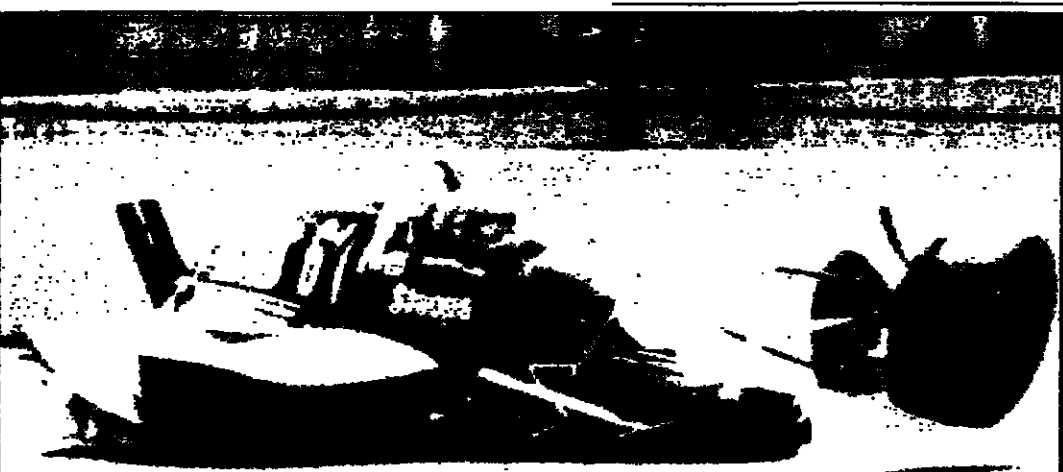
The match, to be played at the International Stadium, is part of Pepsi-Cola's commitment as the leading sponsor of Arab soccer. Past Arab tournaments and exhibition matches are being held throughout the region with the help of Pepsi.

The match is expected to be transmitted live by satellite TV from Egypt.

Rafferty takes Italian crown

MONTICELLO, Italy, May 22. (Reuters) Britain's Ronan Rafferty claimed his first victory in eight years as a professional on the European golf tour yesterday when he shot a final round 65 to snatch a one-stroke victory in the Italian Open.

Rafferty carded seven birdies—he holed five times from between 15 and 25 feet—as he finished 15-under-par on a 273 total ahead of Briton Sam Torrance, who closed with a 70, and Sweden's Magnus Persson, who finished a further shot back after a final-round 68.



Steve Butler loses a wheel after hitting a wall during the last Indy 500 qualifying session. He escaped injury but failed to qualify. (Reuters wirephoto)

INDIANAPOLIS, May 22. (Reuters) The fastest Indianapolis 500-mile race field in history was filled yesterday, but it will be without three-time winner Johnny Rutherford, whose engine blew as he made a final qualifying attempt.

Rutherford was on the track in four-time champion A.J. Foyt's backup car as the gun sounded to end qualifications for yesterday's race.

He would have been allowed to complete his four-lap speed trial, but the engine blew as he entered turn two of the first lap of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway track.

Rutherford had been bumped out of the field 30 minutes earlier when Rich Vogler recorded a qualification time slightly faster than Rutherford's speed.

The 33 fastest cars in qualifying start in the race. Fastest yesterday was Billy Vukovich III at 348.28 kph.

Vukovich, who was named Rookie of the Year last May, has an impressive Indy pedigree. His father was the top rookie in 1968 and his grandfather won the race in 1953 and 1954.

Also qualifying yesterday were Davy Jones, who had also been bumped from the field earlier in the day, and Pancho Carter, whose father also is a former Indy driver.

Average speed for the field is a record 348.55 kph, 10.30 kph faster than last year. Vogler was the slowest qualifier at 343.16 kph.

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